Mayor's Task Force On Community and Family Violence

Final Report

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

March, 1991

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

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For the purpose of this report, violence means:

a) Being pushed, grabbed, slapped, punched, kicked, beaten up, attacked with a weapon;

b) being threatened with any of the behaviors in (a);

c) being coerced, threatened, or forced to engage in unwanted sexual activity.

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March 1, 1991

Mayor Al Duerr
Office of the Mayor
The City of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta

Dear Mayor Duerr:

On behalf of your Task Force on Community and Family Violence, I respectfully submit our report.

I frankly do so with the knowledge that the recommendations that we regard to be very useful in this report will, of themselves, not be sufficient in that we will also require, over time, basic changes in the structures and attitudes within our community if we are to overcome the societal dysfunctions that cause man to commit violent acts against others.

Speaking personally, the experiences resulting from my positive response to your request to chair the Task Force on Violence have been challenging and educational. My participation has made me appreciative of the work of others, but at the same time, has also made me very sad.

For obvious reasons, the experience of working on this Task Force has been challenging and enlightening. The issues themselves are saddening. I am appreciative of the many talents and total commitment shown by the dedicated Calgarians who agreed to be members of this Task Force. I am especially thankful for the excellent work performed by our research coordinator, Mary Jane Amey. I am also thankful for the corporate assistance of the private sector, which paid all of the out-of-pocket expenses of the Task Force.

Above all I am grateful to the many volunteer agencies and individuals in Calgary, who strive, more often than not with limited funds, to fulfil their commitment to make Calgary a better city in which to live for all of its citizens.

But more than anything, a sadness pervaded all of our work, a sadness that speaks to the violence in our community, that causes tragedy after tragedy in the lives of Calgarians, particularly of women and children.

To the countless Calgarians who came to speak to us, both publicly and privately, to explain the daily horrors in their lives, to the groups and organizations that met with us to explain the problems and advise us as to what, in their view, must be done, we all owe sincere thanks for their courage and honesty.

But until we, as a society, take the firm and irrevocable decision that violence will not be tolerated; until we tell our TV and movie producers that we have had enough violence on our screens; until women are empowered to stand equally with men, economically independent and with equal opportunity; until our police forces and judicial system recognize that violence of any kind is a crime, that there are no excuses, no shades of grey, and no acceptable violence; and until our politicians at all levels recognize the gravity of such violations, then, and only then, will we be able to strike at the very heart of the violence that exists in our community.

The many recommendations that are contained in this report to you Mr. Mayor, examine an existing situation and endeavor to deal with the situation in the most practical and cost-efficient manner that is, in our opinion, possible to achieve.

I think it is fair to say that Calgarians, as evidenced by our survey, regard their city as relatively safe. I think it is also fair to say, in comparison to other major urban centres, we are indeed a relatively safe community.

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But the statistics bear a somewhat different story. For if one in four women can expect to be sexually assaulted at some point in their lives, one half of these women before the age of seventeen; if as many as one in ten women will be assaulted in their intimate relationships, which translates into violence against women occurring each year in 20,000 Calgary homes; and if 40% of the children who live in these homes witness spousal abuse and will likely become either perpetrators or victims of violence later in life; and if the number of children abused and neglected is rising to the extent where there were 2,830 of these cases during 1989; then we can only conclude that we do indeed have a serious problem with violence in Calgary, a problem that we cannot simply ignore or disguise by looking the other way.

Time and time again, we heard at the public hearings pleas for leadership, pleas for more funding and pleas for better education in schools and communities on matters relating to violence.

It became abundantly clear to the members of your Task Force that the City of Calgary must take steps immediately to reorganize and coordinate the existing resources now available in our community to combat violence. We must also address the many gaps that exist within the current system that allow violence to continue.

In our view, the result of such action will be a substantial improvement in effectively responding to the violence issues raised in this report. Too often, we found territorial and jurisdictional differences interfering in the operations of funding and service agencies, that tended to under cut the coordination and overall good of the programs and funding that were offered.

Too often, we found areas where leadership was totally lacking, and asked ourselves if the City of Calgary, through its Council, does not provide a much higher degree of leadership in this area, then who else can be expected to do it?

I recommend, on behalf of the Task Force, your most serious consideration to the recommendations contained in Section V recommending the creation of the Action Committee Against Violence.

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We are unanimously of the view that the creation of such a body could, if handled properly, have a measurable and worthwhile effect in providing the necessary leadership presently lacking in our City.

We note a number of positive initiatives that have been undertaken in recent weeks by the City in its announcement to provide additional housing for abused women, by the the Solicitor General in embarking on an immediate information campaign, and the undertaking by the Federal Government to allocate additional funding for shelters for abused women. We commend the City, the Province, and the Federal Government for such undertakings. As a Task Force, we recognize the extreme pressures upon public expenditures. We also recognize that the prime responsibility for personal care lies with the individual. However, when it comes to individuals in our society who are helpless victims of violence, we must as a society respond. As a result, a number of the recommendations in this report will cost money, whether by new funding or re-allocation of financial priorities by our Governments. A number of the recommendations call for the more cost effective use of existing agencies.

Programs providing assistance to the abused and striving to provide preventive services to the abused are badly under funded. The volunteer sector in Calgary, always willing to come forward to perform extraordinary feats of work, seem to be stretched to the limits. The corporate sector, traditionally a generous participant in financially assisting Calgary's numerous organizations, is being continually canvassed, and has limited resources to donate to such worthwhile activities.

It is the Provincial Government that has been a disappointment in its lack of sensitivity to the magnitude of the problems and needs of our community. There was not an organization that came to us that didn't speak to the problem of either under funding, cutbacks in funding, or lack of funding. Program after program is confronted with the provincial government's almost obsessive approach to a "balanced budget", while the backlog and waiting lists grow. Sexually abused children, battered women, and male batterers seeking treatment go without help.

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The Provincial Government is the prime funder of social programs in the Province of Alberta. Public relation programs are important, but adequate funding for social programs is essential. Our municipal government can only do so much in providing the needed leadership role that we refer to in this report. Without adequate funding, tremendous damage to a growing segment of our society results, and eventually, the Province will be called upon to pay, and probably far more heavily, in health care costs, court costs, and prison costs, much of which could be avoided with proper funding to assist those in need and encourage prevention programs necessary to counteract the human fallout from violence.

In conclusion, may I commend you for having the foresight to direct attention to this area of deep concern in our community. At the start, many, including the writer, questioned whether or not there was a necessity for the Task Force, but I must say, having gone through the process, I firmly believe such a focus was important for our community. If it did nothing more than raise the level of awareness in the community, it was worth it. If the content of this report continue the awareness and results in positive steps taken to provide leadership and assistance to those in need, then indeed, the work of the Task Force will have been worthwhile.

Above all, Mr. Mayor, what is needed now is action. There has been enough research, enough study and yes, enough Task Forces. The scars in our community resulting from violent acts may be hidden, but they are nevertheless very real, resulting in immense human and financial losses to our community.

I truly hope this report will not be put on the shelf and become another dust collector, and I am heartened by your commitment to me that this will not be the case.

Accordingly, the appended report is respectfully submitted to you for your consideration and that of your Council.

Yours Truly,

Ron Ghitter
Chairman

Section I: Introduction

Purpose and Background of the Task Force

On April 23, 1990 the Mayor's Task Force on Community and Family Violence was created to investigate all aspects of violence in Calgary. The idea for a Task Force had its origin in conversations the Mayor and his staff had with street youth whom they met in public places around City Hall. The young men and women spoke of the violence in their lives and the scars, both physical and psychological, they carried as a result.

These informal conversations led to a formal meeting with the Mayor, who determined that a Kids-at-Risk committee needed to be established to look at ways and means of improving the lives of these young people, with respect to violence. Further consultations with professionals and citizens of the community convinced the Mayor a broader examination was necessary. The Task Force on community and Family Violence was initiated in response to the Mayor's concern that numerous forms of violence might be on the increase in Calgary.

Task Force Mandate

The Mayor assigned the Task Force the mandate to:

1. Review previous research and studies on violence.
2. Define issues surrounding and contributing to violence.
3. Identify local agencies working in this area.
4. Identify current gaps in service and define areas of concern and priority.
5. Conduct a comparative review of current trends in community and family violence.
6. Develop a position paper related to the key areas of concern for the coming decade.

This Task Force was also asked to examine:

- Family violence
  Wife and child abuse, and elder abuse
- Gang violence
- School violence
- Violence in cultural communities

Membership

The membership of the Task Force is comprised of volunteers selected by the Mayor due to their diverse backgrounds and known interest in the area.

Time

The Task Force met for the first time on April 23, 1990, and finalized its public and private hearings in December, 1990.

Research Coordination and Administrative Support

Support to the Task Force was provided by Mary Jane Amey, Research Coordinator. Ms. Amey assisted in the organization, coordination, and development of the report. She also solicited various forms of additional support from civic departments and other organizations when required.

Budget

At the time of announcing the Task Force, the Mayor clearly stated he did not want the Task Force to be funded with taxpayers' money. The original cost estimate of the Task Force was budgeted at $40,000. The actual costs incurred were under that amount. All of the Task Force members agreed to serve on the committee on a volunteer basis. The corporate community was approached and responded enthusiastically to meet the financial needs of this Task Force.

The Report

This report is a synthesis of information collected from sources within the Calgary community. This report is not a scholarly research thesis. Nor is this report a comprehensive account of all that we have learned about community and family violence. The material collected about violence was voluminous, and at times intensely personal. We assured the participants in the private hearings that the strictest confidentiality would apply to their stories.

As beneficial as some of this information was, we could not include it in this report. All the research work completed by different sources benefited us in our own research. When applicable, we have incorporated their conclusions into our final report. As the Mayor requested, "an action plan for the future" was consolidated into the recommendations we have provided. These recommendations are workable solutions to the problems addressed in this report.

Municipal Context

This report is made to the Mayor and City Council of Calgary. Some issues and recommendations contained in this report deal with areas in which the municipality has jurisdiction; other issues deal with areas where the city has no control. In those instances, we feel the City can lend its credibility and assist in the issues that transcend its jurisdiction.

The city of Calgary offers its services in varying areas effected by violence. These services include:

- Information and public awareness (education) services providing programs to Calgarians dealing with violence in their lives.
- Coordinating service delivery, policy development, and support funding in the Calgary community.
- Safety issues in the infrastructure of the urban environment. For example urban design, community planning, and transportation.
- Recreational services governing recreational planning, park space design, and management.
- Funding violence-prevention programs through Family and Community Support Services.
- Protection services rendered by the police.

Areas of Responsibility For Senior Levels of Government

Establishing ownership and responsibilities of the various levels of government for issues impacting community safety ensures there is no unnecessary duplication of activity. It also guarantees that no needed activity is missed and all levels of government are meeting their mandated proportion of responsibility. By agreement and/ or by law, certain responsibilities impacting on community and family violence have been acknowledged as falling within the jurisdiction of senior levels of government.

The following table outlines the responsibility, as we see it, of the two levels of government.

Provincial	Federal
Child Welfare legislation and other social legislation	Administration of Justice and enactment of Provincial Offences
Funding of health care and social service program delivery	Mental Health Services Public Health Services
Housing and subsidized housing	Education
Probation and provincial corrections Rules of court	

Table Division of Government Responsibilities

Section II: Research Methodology

Methods Used

At the outset, and while the Task Force was meeting, the public mood towards our endeavour was encouraging, and we received many offers of assistance. Although this was the primary consensus, some people expressed scepticism regarding the appointment of yet another task force. These people seemed to feel that this Task Force was "just anther Task Force that will not be effective".

Aware of the encouragement and the scepticism surrounding our research, Task Force members knew it was crucial to hear from those people whose lives had been directly touched by violence. It was important to listen to people who had worked closely with victims of violence, and also the general public. Particular care was taken to ensure that we listened to the voices of people who are rarely heard, such as children, adolescents, elderly, native, immigrants, poor, and female Calgarians.

More than the extensive expertise of Task Force members was required to adequately study this major social problem. The following means were used to collect objective accounts and perspectives on violence in the city.

- focus meetings
- public hearings
- private hearings
- random survey

Focus Meetings

Twelve informal focus meetings were held during July and August 1990. These meeting included over 100 Calgary professionals. (Refer to Appendix A for information about these participants.) Participants of the focus meetings were invited to share their viewpoints with the Task Force about violence in Calgary. Participants were encouraged to prepare briefs for Public Hearings held in October of 1990.

The focus meeting resulted in both brainstorming and educational sessions that resulted in a list of themes with respect to Calgary's needs in the area of community and family violence. Similarities in themes emerged. We found that from meeting to meeting, the difficulties, gaps in service, and suggestions for change were often similar, even though the participants represented different groups and organizations. The ten most frequently mentioned themes appear in Appendix B. These re-occurring themes formed the basis of our inquiries.

Public Hearings

In early September 1990, the Mayor sent 300 individuals and groups in professional associations, community associations, faith communities, and social service agencies a letter. This letter invited public submissions to the Task Force. The list of respondents was compiled by Task Force members who identified a broad cross section of interest groups within the community. The personal invitation extended by the Mayor, served to introduce the Task Force to key stakeholders in the community. Many respondents took the initiative to include articles and notices of public hearings in their monthly newsletters.

Acting on the advice of focus meeting participants, we encouraged consumers of public and social services to come forward and share their experiences. Both the Calgary Herald and the Calgary Sun generously assisted with this effort by advertising the locations, dates, and times of hearings at no expense to the Task Force.

We also suggested that agencies support the effort of their clients who wanted to make presentations to us. Calgarians responded positively. Many chose to write rather than appear at public hearings. Written briefs and letters were received from dozens of professionals, scholars, survivors, board volunteers, and members of the general public. Several letters of a confidential nature were received, but are not enumerated in this group of respondents due to the confidentiality of the material.

Over seventy public submissions were presented to the Task Force from October 15 to 17 and October 22 to 25, 1990. Participants in the public hearing process are listed in Appendix C, in the order in which they appeared at the hearings.

The public hearings were located at three Calgary Board of Education High Schools, chosen for their availability and location in the north, south, and eastern sections of the city. Task Force members rotated their attendance during the seven evenings. Each public hearing was followed by a debriefing session, where information was reviewed and classified.

Members of the Task Force also met privately with a large number of Calgarians who wanted to share their experiences and knowledge. Due to the sensitivity of the information, these meetings were held privately, in the strictest confidence.

We who served on the Task Force were particularly moved by the survivors who participated in public and private hearings. For us to understand violence and victimization, we had to confront the victims of violence on an emotional level, in spite of occasional inclinations to discount or deny the existence of their suffering. Often times, little sense could be made of the inhumanities.

We would like to thank the many courageous survivors for sharing their insights. And we would also like to make the reader aware of how these insights added to our own clarity of the issues at hand. To protect their security and confidentiality, only those people who gave us the authorization were listed among the participants.

Focus meetings and public hearings allowed individuals and groups who work with victims and survivors of violence to come together and share ideas, newly initiated programs, and policy developments. This was an unplanned outcome. Examples were found throughout the city of committed people performing innovative and high quality jobs with minimum resources, limited time, personnel, and funding. Because of the amount of time spent dealing with the ramifications of violence, few people had time to build a network of support.

The combination of focus meetings and public and private hearings allowed the Task Force to benefit from the resources of many individuals and groups. Public hearing findings are reflected in the recommendations in this report.

The Survey

The final information-gathering instrument, particularly targeted at the general public, was a survey on community and family violence. The sample was from 4,000 Calgary households, randomly selected from the 1990 Civic Census. An example of the survey can be found in Appendix D. The analysis of the survey results can be found in Section XVI. Thirty-four percent of the questionnaires were completed and returned. The Task Force considers this high level of response an indication Calgarians are concerned about the safety of all Calgary's citizens and they are committed to their communities. We, of course, cannot thank all respondents individually, but would like to acknowledge them at this point in this report, for taking the time to complete the survey, and for adding insightful comments to guide our work.

A brief sampling of some of the comments made by Calgarians in the questionnaire follow, and give a flavour of the type of concerns raised:

> "Public education re violence in Calgary is essential, and funding for shelters should be provided. Many women do not know their rights or where to go for help."

"I lived downtown for three years. I was grabbed going home three times. I was able to get away each time. Each time, the men grabbed me near or in the underpasses. I never reported the attacks because I felt the police wouldn't do anything. I'm now living in the suburbs with young families. I do not feel nearly as threatened."

"More has to be done to control the availability of pornography, the glorification of violence against women and children."

"Real concern re battered wives, are the police exercising their right to charge, or is it still easier to turn a blind eye if the women is too afraid to testify?"

"I am appalled at the violence increase in this city. I will not go out alone at night anywhere."

"I think we have many agencies to help people with much overlapping of responsibilities. We need a rationalization of the system, even though this will lead to screaming from those agencies that are forced to shut down or change."

"I think our criminal court system is very inadequate in dealing with violent crimes. The sentences are too light and the judges are incredibly out of touch and place no value on women or children, especially concerning sexual violence."

"I feel that a major problem in Calgary is the violence by youths, who are then protected by the Young Offenders Act."

"I don't like feeling vulnerable after dark when alone."
"I think overall that Calgary is a safe place to live. That is one reason why we live here."

"More funding must be allocated for this serious problem. Our Provincial Government has been negligent in not fulfilling its responsibility in this area."

Data Gathering

Through the information-gathering process, it became clear that current knowledge about the incidence and prevalence of all types of violence in Calgary is based primarily on estimates. Effective responses to the problem require more accurate data, and the coordinated collection of data. We found no shortage of figures from the police, provincial social services and non-profit organizations. Even though data is available, no one is bringing all the information together to provide an accurate representation about the occurrence of violence. It is difficult to develop meaningful programs if the extent of the problem is not understood.

Two major Calgary institutions made changes within their data collecting systems during 1990. The Calgary Board of Education changed the collection of centralized information on violence in their schools to make it more extensive and accurate, and the Calgary Police Service began to separate domestic assault reports from all other kinds of assault. Contributing to the confusion is that all types of family violence and sexual assault are amongst the most under reported of all crimes. Our initial perceptions were confirmed, that the prevalence and incidence of violence is not accurately reflected in the numbers we have managed to collect, and is indeed much higher.

Section III: Underlying Premisses and Findings Governing the Recommendations of the Mayor's Task Force on Community and Family Violence

Introduction

The following premisses and findings guided the Task Force's search for solutions to violence in Calgary. They serve as the underlying structure of our analyses and recommendations. These premisses and findings were not necessarily present at the beginning of our endeavour, but were acquired by listening to Calgarians, during discussions amongst ourselves and with others, and through research reading on the topic of violence. Because violence, especially within the family, has been identified as a major social problem only within the past two decades, there are still many conflicting perceptions on its source and scope, and what needs to be done to combat the problem. This is not surprising given the complexities of the issues.

- It is the right of every Calgarian to live a life free from violence.

- Violence, both in public and in private, can be a life threatening or physically and mentally debilitating problem with immense health and cost implications to a community. There should be no difference in the public response to violence, whether it occurs in public or in private.

- Violence is related to systemic inequalities in our society. Vulnerable groups, such as women, children, the infirm, and the elderly, are at the greatest risk of becoming victims of violence.

- The responsibility to eliminate violence rests with both the perpetrator and the community.

- Perpetrators must be held accountable and responsible for their behaviour.

- It is the duty of individuals and the community to ensure that society's institutions, such as the family, schools, and the courts are able to respond to violence of any kind, whether it occurs within the privacy of the home or in public. Inaction is unacceptable.

- The use of violence, whether in public or in private, should be a crime. Mandatory assault charges for the offender are necessary as a deterrent to future violence.

- Court involvement is not only necessary from a punitive and deterrent point of view, it is also necessary to ensure treatment of the offender. Criminal prosecution and conviction are not all that is required to ensure a violence free society.

- Violence is a learned behaviour. Children who witness or personally experience violence within the home are more likely than other children to become perpetrators or victims of violence later in life.

- Violence within the home can lead to delinquent and violent crimes, and exposure to violence outside the home.

- No level of society is immune from violence, it is evident in all socioeconomic and age groups.

- Violence exhibited in movies, T.V., and video depictions available in the community, and particularly the combination of sex and violence, increases the frequency and severity of violent acts, and also tends to create negative and dangerous attitudes towards women.

Section IV: Funding Social Programs

Introduction

Volunteer agencies providing essential services in our community are badly under funded. The most common concerns stated to the Task Force throughout the public hearing process related to the anxieties of our agencies with respect to their lack of funding.

Agency after agency came before the Task Force and expressed their fear and frustration associated with under funding and loss of funding that they were encountering. Typical examples of this occurrence are:

Woods Homes
Providing a range of treatment for troubled teens and their families, helping over 1,000 Calgary families a year. Total budget three years ago from Alberta Family and Social Services and Alberta Health departments, was $3.5 million. Since then, funding has been cut by $900,000 and the Solicitor General's Department no longer funds a Young Offenders program that previously received $560,000.

Children's Cottage
A 24-hour crisis nursery that helps parents during family emergencies. The Cottage is almost constantly full, taking in its maximum of 900 children a year and turning away the same number. Funding comes from Alberta Family and Social Services (63%, $246,000.00), and the remainder comes from fund raising. Provincial funding has not increased in two years.

Calgary Immigrant Aid Society

An orientation and settlement agency for new immigrants to Calgary, assisting 18,778 people last year. This year the agency received a total of $912,307 from the Federal and Provincial governments, United Way and FCSS. The 1987 total was $708,226. While funding has increased 29%, the number of people the agency serves within that time span increased 77%.

An example of one program that was a regrettable loss was the program offered at the General Hospital for men who batter. This program, which was carried on for eight years at the hospital, was discontinued when funding could not be obtained.

Without exception, the volunteer agencies we met with are spending more and more of their valuable time seeking funding, and are receiving less funding each year to meet the growing demands imposed on them by a more aware and needy community. In the case of some agencies, adequate funding was not established at an initial level to meet the program needs. In other instances, funding cuts reduced the ability of programs to meet their objectives. In still other instances, the effects of inflation reduced the availability of services and resulted in under funding.

The Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program is a joint venture of governments, with funding from all three levels of government, allocated at the local level. In the recent past, the program has seen per capita funding increased, decreased and partially restored. Throughout the past decade, inflation eroded the purchasing power of the program to the extent where proportionately less services can be purchased now than when the program was first introduced.

While the ability to fund preventive services through the FCSS program has decreased, the service needs in an increasingly complex urban environment have increased. The movement of people into the city, societal change, and a heightened awareness and willingness to address concerns, such as violence, have all led to increased service demands.

Other services dealing with family and community violence have experienced similar funding constraints. The Boards of Education, Police Services, and Provincial Government departments have all seen service funding reallocated or reduced.

The Provincial Government bears the major responsibility for funding services addressing family and community violence. Unlike the city, the Province's mandate encompasses all the services identified in this report. More Provincial funding in all areas of violence prevention and alleviation is urgently required. The Province must take an active and progressive role identifying needs, and adequately funding those programs that endeavour to meet those needs. This requires additional funding to reap a long term benefit, and avoid the cost of long term care, even in a time of restraint.

The non-government funding sector, through foundations and the United Way, should be encouraged to reconsider their commitments to family and community violence. Without more funding in both the preventive and crisis areas, it is impossible to care for the needs of Calgarians who require assistance.

The leadership role in this area, specifically outlined in Section V of this report, must be assumed by the City of Calgary. The City must, by all means possible, endeavour to encourage the Provincial Government to provide more adequate funding. The Provincial Government must be convinced that we either pay now or pay later, and that cost of paying later is much higher.

The City of Calgary Council, in recognition of their concern in the area, has already allocated $300,000 for implementing the recommendations in this Report, but the City is limited in its funding capabilities in this area, and it is the Provincial Government that must respond.

Recommendations

In order to deal with this urgent situation, the Task Force recommends that:

Recommendation 1
The Mayor, with the support of City Council, convene a Province-wide conference, where the Provincial Government will be invited to be a major participant with funding agencies, to examine ways and means by which adequate funding can be made available for agencies providing needed services in the area of family and community violence.

Recommendation 2
The Province allocate more unconditional funding to the City so that local priorities can be determined by City Council.

Recommendation 3
The City of Calgary, upon receiving unconditional funding from the Province, adjust its priorities so that more funding is made available for agencies providing needed services in the area of family and community violence.

Rationale

We regard the issue of funding to be of an urgent nature. It is this urgency that moves us to recommend the City of Calgary take the initiative to call a Province-wide conference to bring public awareness to the issue, and to examine ways and means in which funding can be allocated to assist agencies in providing needed services to victims and survivors of violence.

We are aware that a considerable amount of funding received from the City is conditional. We recommend that funding be provided on an unconditional basis, so that the City can determine whether it wants more roads or better social services. These decisions should be made at the local level, with the desired result of re-prioritization of City spending, so that more funding can be allocated in the social areas where it is needed.

A number of recommendations in Section V of this report are designed to examine ways and means to fund volunteer and other agencies to avoid duplicating services, and to better assist agencies who need additional funding to accomplish their work. It is hoped that the procedures required to obtain funding will become more streamlined, resulting in less time being spent by agencies in obtaining funding, and more time spent performing the work that is so urgently needed.

The Task Force is aware of efforts by all levels of government to reduce spending. At the same time, the Task Force is making recommendations that have funding implications. The dilemma, in the minds of the Task Force, is over ridden by the nature of the concerns and the expectation that violence in our society is a priority for action. Failing to deal with problems of violence at an early stage only increase costs at a later stage in the process. Effective prevention outweighs the on going costs of providing shelters, counselling abused children, or charging and incarcerating the perpetrators of violence.

Section V: Coordinating Funding and Services

Introduction

Programs and services dealing with violence within the Calgary community can best be described as fragmented, lacking leadership and co-ordination. Most programs operate with inadequate information in somewhat chaotic circumstances. Too often these services are inaccessible to the consumer.

It is not that we do not enjoy the benefit of the work performed by our agencies, our dedicated professionals and volunteers, and our government departments, it appears that nothing is happening to bring the efforts together in an understandable, coordinated, and accessible manner.

There are many gaps in the system where certain groups are forgotten, particularly in the field of adolescents, where necessary programs are non-existent.

Throughout the course of our meetings, both public and private, the Task Force members were astonished by the amount of time and energy that victims and survivors of violence, especially family violence, needed to expend to obtain support and information. We heard heroic stories of women and adolescents navigating a fragmented, complicated, and usually confusing "non system" of separate and isolated agencies and public institutions. We heard how often they gave up trying to reach out for help. After having so much difficulty accessing groups that could provide assistance, many people concluded help was not available.

We heard how later on they would try again, often more desperate with each successive attempt. One young man told us "I didn't know where to turn for help in getting off the streets. I wanted to make changes in my life after I served time in Strathmore. I tried calling one of the numbers that they gave me, but I had to go on a waiting list."

"What was I supposed to do while I waited? It took six more months on the streets and multi-tries to get off, I finally did get help. I'm working now, don't do drugs...but I want you to know, when a kid needs help, they should get it when they need it, three months later is no good."

We also heard from a survivor of wife assault who stumbled onto the information she needed completely by accident. During her search, this woman had spoken about her situation to her family physician over the years when he treated her for broken bones and other severe injuries received at the hand of her husband. Her physician gave her platitudes about marriage and the family.

She told her priest, who suggested she pray for her husband's soul. She called the police on several occasions early in her marriage. She stopped calling when they offered no practical assistance. In later years, her children would call the police. At school they learned the police were their friends and would help them if they needed it. Charges were never laid.

During the United Way Campaign one year, this woman heard a presentation at her place of employment from a representative from a women's shelter. The presentation discussed the type of services United Way funded, and encouraged financial support for these worthwhile programs. Pamphlets containing information and telephone numbers were handed out to all employees. The next time this woman was assaulted, she called the shelter and received help. Through the assistance of the shelter she was able to leave her abusive relationship. "Until I heard about the shelter, I did not know there was any help in this city for me." It was not as though she did not try.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
That Calgary City Council create an Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV).

Recommendation 2
City Council consider the following membership for the Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV):
One Alderman
One senior official from City Social Services
One senior official from the United Way
One senior official from the Burns Foundation
One senior official from the City Police Service
One senior official from the Interdepartmental Committee on Family Violence of the Provincial Government Department
One senior representative from the Calgary Area Hospital Advisory Council
One representative from a women's action group
One representative involved with an organization engaged in front line work with women experiencing violence
One representative involved in violence-related programs with youth
One representative involved with an organization engaged in working with minority women
One representative working with an organization serving the aboriginal community
A judge of the Provincial Family Court
Two Calgary citizens at large who will reflect the views of the survivors of violence

Rationale

These recommendations are designed to respond to the overwhelming number of submissions received by the Task Force calling for leadership and coordination of services available in the community relating to violent activity.

We are sensitive to the problems of fragmentation and lack of coordination within the whole social service system. We hope that with the support and perhaps the stimulus of ACAV, a future oriented, research based, social planning body can be developed in Calgary as an on going means to combat violence related social issues before they become social problems.

The Task Force recommends the primary functions of ACAV be advocacy, coordination, and recommendation of policies. The objectives of the Action Committee Against Violence are to:

a) Examine existing violence related programs in Calgary with the objective of recommending to City Council better and more effective means of delivering services to needy Calgarians, with an emphasis on doing so at a community level.

b) Act as a coordinating body for the funding of all agencies working in the areas of community and family violence, by bringing together the various funding agencies in the city and setting up streamlined procedures whereby agencies can receive long term funding commitments to accomplish their work, with a lesser demand upon their time to obtain funding.

c) Report annually to City Council through their Aldermen, as to ways and means to better coordinate the delivery of violence related services to Calgarians, and advise actions that must be taken to fund volunteer and other agencies providing services.

d) Set up interdisciplinary work teams to provide on going insight and recommendations to ACAV that can be acted upon and encourage the development of new policies necessary in the City. The composition of these work teams will be comprised of front-line workers involved on a daily basis, in either a professional or volunteer capacity in a specific area. We encourage the good work of the Calgary Region Domestic Violence Committee with reference to the on going examination of the judicial system, and encourage the creation of work teams to overview the areas of urban safety, children, and youth.

e) Cause the preparation of a catalogue of all City, Provincial, and Federal social services dealing with acts of violence. This catalogue will outline the services available in the City and the telephone number, address, and key contact people within the agencies and organizations. The orderly dissemination of the catalogue will be made throughout the City of Calgary.

f) Organize and oversee an advertising and awareness campaign to emphasize all forms of violence, abuse of every nature, or kind are crimes and must not be tolerated by Calgarians. Obtain from various levels of government the funding required to conduct an effective advertising and awareness campaign.

g) Seek to establish a comprehensive crisis line manned by trained volunteers, available on a 24-hour basis for any citizen needing help as a result of violence. The purpose is to provide immediate assistance to Calgarians who are in urgent need of help that can be obtained by calling one well-known crisis line number.

h) Examine existing programs to determine where there are gaps or inadequacies, particularly in areas involving adolescents, with a view to encouraging agencies to expand their activities to assist in areas where help is not available.

i) Deal with other concerns relating to violent activities in our community as may become apparent to the committee from time to time.

j) Act as a watchdog and activist spokes group to those in our society who suffer the indignity and horrors of violent acts by others and who need help.

k) Recommend and encourage City Council to take action to make Calgary a safer city.

l) Recommend and encourage continuing judicial and other legal education programs on violence against women and children, addressing the issue of stereotypes and biases, which sometimes interfere with fairness in the Court system.

It would be appropriate if the majority of the members of the Committee were women. The ultimate success of ACAV depends on the credibility of the composition of its membership, and its willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue with the various agencies throughout the City.

It is envisioned that City Council would fund this committee to allow it to hire a permanent executive director and small staff, to be housed in a location other than City Hall.

City Council has set aside $300,000 to institute the recommendations of this report. We recommend ACAV be established for a three-year term, evaluated by City Council each year, and that a portion of the funds allocated by City Council be used to foster the work that flows from the committee. It is also suggested that other financial stakeholders serving on the committee, such as the United Way, the Burns Foundation, and the Provincial Government, be encouraged to contribute to the funding ACAV.

The objectives of the committee, that are suggested in this report provide the outline for the ultimate approval by the directors of the committee and City Council.

There are cautions that must be observed in the context of the recommendations in this section. It is not the intention of the Task Force to create another high-level bureaucracy that will get in the way of the work of the agencies. These recommendations are made with the knowledge and understanding that the volunteer agencies in Calgary spend enough administrative time endeavouring to seek funding, and their ultimate work is diffused and less effective due to the energy spent in trying to "stay alive".

The purposed committee is designed to provide leadership in our community, co-ordination, assist our agencies in the rationalization of programs being offered, and to set up networks that will make the acquisition of necessary funding easier for those groups providing necessary services to Calgarians. Wherever possible, the committee should encourage the use of input from the multidisciplinary work teams referred to earlier. These work teams could assist the committee in directing efforts, particularly the victims of family violence, abusers, and adolescents.

It should be recognized that crisis lines and catalogues of information are important steps to be achieved; however, if the necessary programs are not available to assist individuals when they call, there can be no obvious benefits. It is essential that adequate programs are in place as a precondition to the commencement of the crisis line and the distribution of the catalogue.

Section VI: Wife Abuse

Introduction

Wife abuse is a global problem. In Canada, it is estimated one in ten women in a marriage or commonlaw relationship is beaten, kicked, punched, burned, threatened, or shot by the man with whom she lives or has lived. More over, 52% of all women killed in Canada are murdered within the context of the family.

Wife abuse is not simply the outcome of marital quarrelling. Nor is it found only in "violent" subgroups in wider society. In fact, wife abuse crosses all geographic, socio-economic, and urban-rural boundaries. No sector of society is immune from this type of violence.

Wife abuse is rarely a one-time occurrence. If there is no intervention, over time the abuse increases in frequency and severity. In one Ontario study, women were found to have been abused on average 35 times before intervention. The first intervention came most often from the police.

The term "wife-abuse" refers to a range of behaviours where a male partner attempts to control and dominate a female partner in an established intimate partnership. The abuse can range from insults to medical and economic deprivation, to physical and sexual assault. Not all abuse is considered to be a criminal offence as defined by the criminal code; however, threats to physically harm are considered assault.

Physical abuse is damaging enough, but the long-term emotional scars are devastating. Derogatory comments, constant criticism, ridicule, and isolation from family and friends can lead to impaired psychological functioning and loss of self-esteem. Anxiety, depression and helplessness are common outcomes. Because abused women know their partners have the power to follow through on overt and covert threats, they live in constant fear.

Research in the area of wife abuse sees many similarities between the symptoms of returning Viet Nam war veterans. Underlying wife abuse is an imbalance of the power structure between males and females in our society. The party with the most power is able to control directly or indirectly the thoughts and actions of the less powerful.

All civilized societies have assault laws that underline a basic principle: it is reprehensible to use violence to solve problems. Coexisting with this principle is another that stresses the sanctity and privacy of the family. Until recently, society has chosen to look the other way when violence occurs within the privacy of the home. This immunity from the law and from public scrutiny, has supported the continuance of family violence.

Calgary has been a leader among Canadian cities in recognizing the seriousness of wife abuse and providing services to these women. One of the first women's shelters in Canada was opened here in 1974. Emergency shelters are now a proven and critical front-line social service, providing safety and assistance to battered women and their children.

Three types of housing are needed to provide assistance to battered women and their children: first-stage housing of an emergency nature, second-stage housing that is longer term, with integrated support services; and the third-stage safe housing.

First-stage crisis housing in Calgary is inadequate. In 1989, Calgary's two emergency shelters each turned away approximately 1,300 women and children. They were able to provide services to the same number. Discovery House, a second-stage shelter, turned away more women and children than they could accommodate that year. The Task Force supports the decision of Calhomes Properties (the City's non-profit housing corporation) to review submission criteria to give priority to housing for battered women and their children, and their further initiative to create second-stage housing for these Calgarians. We also learned that Sonshine Centre is changing its mandate to provide long term supportive housing to this population. These efforts will ease the pressure to some extent. They will probably not affect the need for crisis housing.

One of the most striking developments in the past five years in Calgary in the whole area of wife abuse has been the growth in community support and involvement. Groups and individuals who chose to deny the existence of such problems in this city five years ago are now aware and involved.

Self-help groups have been formed and spiritual leaders are acknowledging their role in the perpetuation of inequality. Some community professionals are widening their roles to meet the needs of these women and their children.

Much, of course, still needs to be addressed to find a resolution to this problem. But expectations can be higher when a variety of community resources work together to empower these victims and survivors.

The recommendations that apply to wife abuse are found in sections on the Justice System, Education and Prevention, and most importantly, in the Funding and Coordination of Services section. The recommendations in this section were identified by abused women who came in contact with formal services. The vast majority of abused women still do not come to the attention of individuals outside the home.

Recommendations

To overcome the areas of need in our community, the Task Force recommends that:

Recommendation 1
The supply of emergency shelter spaces be increased to meet the present demand.

Recommendation 2
The Provincial Government simplify the procedure for accessing public assistance.

Recommendation 3
Shelter out reach services be provided to abused women and their families.

Recommendation 4
Broad-based counselling agencies in the City of Calgary include questions on their intake forms regarding all forms of abuse in the family.

Rationale

It became clear to the Task Force early in the information-gathering process that emergency shelter spaces available in Calgary do not meet the present demand. We are also aware that building and operating institutions, like shelters, is costly. We are not necessarily recommending the building of new shelters, but looking to more creative adaptations of existing housing stock to meet these needs. Until such time as some of our recommendations for shelter services are implemented, more crisis spaces are needed. We encourage the use of existing buildings, and suggest that cooperation of all levels of government must be involved to resolve problems relating to the provision of adequate housing for abused women and their children.

The situation of native women is unique. Native women deal on a daily basis with the double injustices of racism and sexism. When a native woman is also battered, her life is made more difficult. The majority of native women in Calgary would prefer their own shelter services. There is presently a group of native women in Calgary working towards developing their own services. They need mainstream support.

Accordingly, any action with respect to the increase in supply of emergency shelter spaces should consider the special needs of native women, with the possibility that special shelter services be made available for this group.

Victims of violence often speak of the difficulties they experience attempting to navigate the public assistance maze. They frequently encounter numerous workers and various departments. Paperwork is extensive and often intrusive. But most problematic to abused women is the inconsistency of information they receive. Many are not told about their full entitlement and must find out from friends or counsellors. It is not surprising that many battered women, vulnerable and confused, would rather live with violence than hassle with public assistance.

All three shelters in Calgary receive calls from women who are in the beginning stage of identifying themselves as battered women, and need information about alternatives and services. Abused women want the violence to end, but are unsure about leaving the relationship. Sometimes these women are reaching out early enough that patterns of abuse have not become deeply established in their relationships. For this group, out reach workers would serve as secondary prevention agents. They would inform the woman of support services in the community, and treatment programs for her spouse. They would assist her with isolation issues and give her practical assistance in the area of protective actions. They would also inform her if they deemed her situation to be high-risk. Because there is the potential for these situations to be dangerous, staff for these positions should be specially trained. Procedures should also exist to decrease the likelihood of injury to a staff member. Under a coordinated community body, out reach services need not necessarily be provided by shelter staff. Trained community workers or public health nurses could enhance their roles by offering this service.

The Task Force heard about counselling agencies who do not, as standard practice, inquire about abuse either in existing relationships or in the families of origin of their clients. Considering that most of the victims we spoke to wish that someone had asked them about the abuse, we submit that counselling agencies who do not specialize in this area should be asking these questions.

The Toronto Family Service Centre has a comprehensive intake form that could be used as a model. This would ensure that appropriate services could be offered to these consumers. The vast majority of abused women will not overtly identify abuse as a reason for seeking counselling, or even medical attention, for that matter. The regular collection of this information would assist the counsellor in providing appropriate services to their client community, and would also assist the wider community in their quest for accurate statistics as to the prevalence of violence in our community.

Section VII: Child Abuse

Introduction

Interest and concern about child abuse and violence in the family is relatively recent. Early approaches to child rescue were more concerned with separation of children from the vice and degradation, and with the desirability of providing dependent children with training and education. The 20th century has witnessed the emergence of theories of child and personality development and the establishment and growth of the helping professions. Hence by the 70's child welfare services were concerned with the provision of community and foster family care as more positive approaches to substitute care. In the 80's legislation became more explicit with respect to children's rights to protection from physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as neglect. Nevertheless a prevailing ideology (one indeed enshrined in the Alberta Child Welfare Act) is that families have the right to raise their children without interference, or with "least intrusion" from the state. Children's rights are often subordinated to the rights of parents to train and discipline as they see fit. A sizeable number of children are subject to various forms of abuse, and are particularly vulnerable to the dangers and damage of family violence. Children's vulnerability is further exacerbated in the Criminal Code specifically exempting from its assault provisions "force by way of correction toward a child".

Child abuse is seen as any act depriving children of their equal human rights, or prevents their optimal development. Child abuse and neglect may also constitute a systematic attack on, and reduction of, a child's self-esteem. Acts that hurt children, either physically or psychologically, may be ones of omission or commission by individuals as well as by institutions or society. Child abuse and neglect constitute an environment, not merely incidents or events. It is estimated conservatively that one out of every eight Canadian children suffers from some kind of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse.

Physical child abuse is commonly defined as non-accidental injury where physical force on the part of a parent or other caregiver has resulted in injuries to a child. Sexual child abuse is the involvement of children in inappropriate sexual activity. Children cannot fully comprehend these acts. They are unable to give informed consent, and where the perpetrator is a parent it is very difficult for a child to avoid or avert such behaviour. No level of society is immune from child abuse. Nor is sexual child abuse a gender neutral issue. The vast majority of perpetrators are male.

Children are also victims when forced to observe domestic violence. It has recently been recognized that children who witness violence against their mothers at home are more likely to become perpetrators or victims of violence in intimate relationships. Boys in particular are more likely to repeat learned violence in other settings.

The protection of children is a basic principle of society. We often heard of professionals' concerns that in the present political climate, the survival of the nuclear family seems to take precedence over the safety and mental health of the individual members.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of the Task Force that:

Recommendation 1

The Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV) establish a work team to identify and develop, on an on going basis, ways and means to improve and coordinate services for abused children and their families.

Recommendation 2

Child Welfare services in Calgary be expanded so that an immediate response can be made to reports of children deemed to be at risk. Criteria for entry into the system must be expanded to allow for preventive and support services to be provided to families.

Recommendation 3
The feasibility of establishing another crisis nursery in the eastern part of the city be determined.

Recommendation 4
Standards be established with respect to protocols and time frames for the investigation of complaints of child sexual abuse victimization.

Recommendation 5
Children who are required to testify in Family or Criminal Court receive special assistance.

Recommendation 6
Specialized treatment services for "children of domestic violence" be funded in Calgary.

Recommendation 7
Restraining orders against abusers clearly specify access conditions.

Calgary does not have solid coordination of services for abused children and adolescents. We did hear of one initiative, spear-headed by Parents Anonymous, that brought together representatives from approximately 15 organizations related to child abuse with the intention of eventually addressing service gaps to these children and their families. This group could possibly form the basis for the work team recommended in this section. Members of this work group should have a broad ethical vision that underscores the paramount importance of individual children's rights.

In Task Force focus groups, concerns about Child Welfare services were second only to the more narrowly defined serious protection issues. To receive service, children must have experienced fairly serious damage, physically and psychologically, before help can be given. Professionals reported to us an increase in legal complexities and clinical severity in all areas of child abuse. With eroded resources, all are under serious strain and question whether our society values its children.

A further stress is suffered by community and treatment professionals who have legal obligations to report children in need of protection. They spoke of their frustration at the slowness, or even lack, of response from Child Welfare. Most service providers had specific examples of programs and services that had once been funded and were now no longer in existence. They described the gaps left by the erosion and cutbacks in this area. All were sympathetic to the fact that child welfare workers are labouring under the constraints of extremely large case loads.

Fiscal restraint policies are occurring at the same time as demand is growing. The increase in demand has two sources. The first is related to the fact that one at risk age group, children under seven, is experiencing a mini baby boom in Calgary. The other source is increased reporting by a more aware community.

Although members of the community are becoming more aware, they often do not possess the skills needed to replace professionals. Many of our participants felt the Provincial Government, when dropping funding for on going services, was expecting the "community" (businesses and volunteers) to automatically pick up on any shortfall. This is hardly a reasonable expectation.

Many of our participants spoke of the pressures on Child Welfare workers to respond to critical needs. This has caused the criteria for access to services be narrowed to exclude a number of "grey area" children and their families. This definition of "grey" cannot be widened further without risking the safety of children.

In Section XII of this report, we address the need for prevention through education. To eradicate the victimization and abuse of children, education and prevention are needed on a broad front. Part of the task of ACAV will be to provide leadership and monitoring.

Use of residential crisis nurseries has been proven to prevent the non-accidental injury of children, by offering parental relief. It is also suggested that the existing crisis nursery, because 50% of its clientele are repeat users, could benefit from an outreach worker, or a close liaison with a community social worker. Parents of young children need extra assistance to develop a supportive community around them, from which they can draw for parental relief, and that task could be undertaken by a community professional. Space in the nursery would then be freed for first-time users.

A delay in the provision of legal and clinical services to a child who has disclosed sexual abuse can cause confusion, concern and fear for victimized children and their families. Many professionals refer to this as a "re-victimization by the system". Every effort should be made to respond quickly to these complaints.

Repeated interrogation of a child can also be traumatic, and the Task Force heard some children are still enduring multiple investigative interviews. These tactics often result in less effective intervention and prosecution. Videotaped interviews should become common practice, with all stakeholders who need information about the case being prepared to hand over their questions to a pair of trained interviewers.

Cases before the Courts involving children need to be given special priority. In some sexual child abuse cases, it is not uncommon for six to eighteen months to elapse before a legal resolution is achieved. This is extremely unhealthy for a child witness, who is under severe stress until the case is dealt with Unnecessary delays can also weaken the prosecution's case, as the child's memory of the crime may diminish.

We recommend a child witness preparation and support program, such as the one in Vancouver, be initiated and funded by the Attorney General's Department.

In this program, a child is not expected to appear at the preliminary hearings, endure repeated adjournments, or experience gruelling court room questioning. Rules of procedure can be modified to ensure the acceptability of videotapes in Court. At the very least, the use of a screen in court can protect a child from having to confront the abuser in a strange and difficult situation.

In wife abuse situations, access to children has another complicating factor. A restraining order may be in effect preventing the abuser from having contact with the adult victim. At the same time, the court may grant access visits to the abuser if he has not previously harmed the children. This arrangement does not take the women's safety needs into consideration.

We recommend restraining orders specify that children are to be turned over to the non-custodial parent for visits in a neutral or public place and the women's address cannot be disclosed on these documents. Restraining order documents can even specify the custodial parent not be the person to turn the children over to the other parent when this constitutes a breach in the restraining order. It is also recommended restraining orders include the specific consequences to be meted out if breached.

Section VIII: Youth and Violence

Introduction

For the purposes of this section, the term youth is interchangeably referred to as adolescents, and refers to Calgarians between the ages of 12 and 18.

Calgarians who came forward with input to the Task Force on the issue of violence and adolescents were more concerned about adolescents as perpetrators of violence, and less focused on their victimization. With the knowledge that the use of violence is a learned behaviour, we can be assured that adolescents who use violence as a problem-solving technique are likely to have been victims of violence, or to have witnessed violence in their homes during their formative years. We are presenting this fact to argue for the need for preventive and treatment services for this population. Youth must also be made accountable when they come in conflict with the law.

Gang and school violence, both of which involve adolescents, made the headlines at various points while the Task Force was meeting. Survey results informed us that Calgarians find this type of violence a major concern, second only in importance to child abuse. We also heard of other problems of adolescence, such as teen pregnancy, parenthood, prostitution, street life, and racial discrimination.

Some controversy exist about how widespread are these problems. We must be clear the majority of Calgary young people, in spite of the pressures of a fast-changing world, stay out of trouble. Most are in school, preparing for future employment. Some make a living, supporting themselves, or contributing to the family income. Some volunteer their time for community projects, such as offering drug counselling to their peers at the Distress Centre. The majority are resilient, have a healthy need to rebel, and are a potential source of optimism and energy for our community.

In this report we focus on the minority who have needs not met within our current system. It is believed this population is relatively small, yet its profile is disproportionately large. This population has a substantial economic impact on program funds, in such services as detention centres, drug treatment facilities, and criminal justice services.

Many of the recommendations for this section overlap with some covered in such sections as the Coordinating Funding, Child Abuse, Commercialisation of Violence Toward Women and Children.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
ACAV establish a work team to coordinate programs and services for violent youth and their families.

Recommendation 2
Services and programs for immigrant, refugee, and ethnic minority youth be developed that are culturally sensitive and supportive, and which include the involvement of members of ethnic minority communities.

Recommendation 3
Programs and services for urban native youth should be culturally sensitive, and operated by native service-providers.

Recommendation 4
Social workers be hired for high needs schools to identify and work with youth at risk.

Recommendation 5

The two Calgary School Boards, in conjunction with appropriate community service-providers, develop programs to reduce the school dropout rate of adolescent students.

Recommendation 6

The J.I.M.Y. program, Alberta Family and Social Services be expanded, and continue to contract out services to address the needs of 16 and 17 year olds in Calgary whose needs are not being met.

Recommendation 7

The work team established under Recommendation 1 of this section should address the needs of late adolescents and young adults who are still vulnerable.

Recommendation 8

Services for adolescent parents be expanded, as youthfulness of a parent is a risk factor in child abuse situations.

Recommendation 9

Residential and out reach services to adolescents who live on the streets be expanded and better coordinated.

Recommendation 10

All first-time adolescent offenders who are involved in violent behaviour undergo a thorough assessment and have intensive services supplied to them.

Rationale

By legal definition, adolescents in Canada under the age of 18 years are considered to be minors. Adolescent minors have different needs from pre-adolescent children, and require special attention. We recognize the considerable gap in available services to this group. By creating a special work team to report to ACAV, a special emphasis on and examination of their problems can be better fulfilled. As mentioned earlier, violence-related problems of youth have their roots in early life experiences. Providers of services to children and adolescents need to be aware, at the very least, of each other's work, particularly in the context of prevention. Greater coordination and public awareness must be emphasized. It is also suggested the membership of the work team include youth who are familiar with the problems of adolescence. The Task Force heard from a number of these youths, who shared their experiences of life on the street as sex-trade workers, or in gangs. They were articulate, optimistic and extremely knowledgeable about the needs of their peers. All had information that has made its way into this report in the form of recommendations. It is important they be included in the work team.

It is suggested that this work team examine ways in which our adolescent population who are involved in violent activities better access the abundance of recreational programs available in the city. We are aware some of Calgary's youth, because of economic pressures and family isolation, spend a large part of their free time unsupervised. Creative approaches to encourage these youth to access our recreational programs can have a positive impact on encouraging them to spend time at community activity centres, rather than shopping malls and in the streets of Calgary.

Calgary's ethno-cultural mix is more diversified than it was a decade ago and this diversification is likely to continue.

Quebec and Ontario receive more new Canadians per year than Alberta, so our ethnic mix is changing more slowly than in those provinces; however, in 1987-1988, 6,000 immigrants of Asian origin, 1,900 immigrants of European origin and 1,300 immigrants from Central and South America chose Alberta as their province of destination. The majority of these newcomers settled in Alberta's two major cities.

In Canada's most recent census (1986), 11% of all new immigrants to Canada were in the 15 to 24 year age group. For Alberta, that means approximately 1,000 immigrant young people arrive here annually. The Calgary Association of Young Immigrants told us many of these young refugees have endured months or years in the dehumanizing conditions of refugee camps. Many have dealt with losses of family members and friends, through separation, violence, or disease. Some have lived with the horrors of war. Children as young as eight years of age have carried weapons for older brothers who were guerillas. Sexual assault is common in the backgrounds of many of the adolescent women. Post traumatic stress disorder is not uncommon among these survivors. They have learned to endure.

Many of these young people find it difficult to "fit in" to the lifestyle of Canadian adolescence. Without adequate preparation on entry to Canada and on going support, they are prone to alienation. Unprepared for school or employment, some gravitate toward a criminal sub-culture within their own ethnic minority community.

Racial minority youth also continue to face significant barriers to equal participation in the social, economic and cultural mainstream of Calgary. These barriers, which they have little control over, take the form of subtle and not-so-subtle discrimination in the areas of education, and access to services, and employment opportunities. Service-providers to these young people fear that failure to remedy these root causes can lead to a total alienation of this portion of our youth population, which could eventually have an adverse effect on the quality of life for all Calgarians. Our ethnic mix is evolving more slowly than in other national and international centres, and Calgary has time to ameliorate this situation before a permanent underclass develops.

The Calgary Police Service reports that Calgary is home presently to only a small number of adolescent gang members, approximately forty. The trauma they afford to their victims, who are often other adolescents, is very real. The Task Force heard the Police CRASH program is very effective in offering assistance to the victims of gang violence.

The majority of newcomers to Calgary are law-abiding and hard-working. Many do not want the dysfunctional behaviour of a minority of their youth to taint the reputation of their entire ethnic minority group. When youthful members of their community come in conflict with the law, there is a tendency to deny the existence of the problem, or to cover up for the adolescents. Mainstream professionals who choose to work with these youth must involve their communities. Building cross-cultural relationships takes time. It is important service providers carry the message to ethnic minority communities that no one group is being singled out for criticism. The majority of adolescent issues are common to young people of every socio-economic and racial background. Professionals, through ethnic minority community members' involvement, can ensure the specific and unique needs of their communities' youth will be met. We can learn from the American experience of fifteen to twenty years ago: Encouraging gang members to assist in building communities had a positive and long-lasting impact.

Like ethnic minority youth, urban native adolescents in Calgary have unique needs, which are rarely addressed. The loss of native children and youth to residential schools, non-native foster homes, and the criminal detention system over the past half century has motivated native communities to take over providing child welfare services, and offer native spiritual training within the mainstream corrections institutions. Many urban native youth must still receive services from non-native providers, so it is important these be culturally sensitive and expertise be sought from native professionals and service-providers whenever possible. In programs where native users of services are disproportionately represented (more than five percent, which is the native percentage of the Alberta population), native service providers should be sought.

Violence is not condoned in traditional native cultures. Generations of colonialism have contributed to the breakdown of native culture and communities, resulting in the disappearance of old values. All forms of violence are now part of urban native culture. Recent self empowerment by natives is an optimistic sign that old values and traditions will return.

The Task Force became aware of several native programs for youth that are worthy of mention. Representatives from these agencies should be sought for the ACAV work team for Adolescents and Children. Native Counselling Services offer the "Try Again" program for Native Young Offenders, and the Calgary Native Friendship Centre offers urban life-skills training for native adolescents. Both are vehicles to non-violent lifestyles, although that is not their primary aim.

Recent American studies show adolescent violence, childbearing, and propensity to drop out of school can be reliably predicted from poor school performance and absenteeism as early as third grade. Child abuse specialists have also isolated risk factors that are predictive of adolescent problems, which can be determined at the time of school entry.

The Task Force heard from many sources that teachers are not trained, and do not have time to fulfil both roles of educator and social worker. Guidance counsellors, and other school staff, are similarly ill-prepared to deal with the range of social problems presenting themselves within schools today. A social worker can provide home visits, contacts and referrals to outside agencies, group work on anger management and conflict resolution skills, and on going follow-up, and provision of services to parents through support and parenting programs. The success of the pilot project at Thomas B. Riley Junior High School, where a City Social Services worker has been employed for three years, supports our recommendation. With social workers in schools, youth at risk can be identified early enough for intervention to be effective, and violence in schools and homes to be prevented.

Adolescents who drop out of school are not well prepared for the world of employment. Panhandling, prostitution, and petty crime, often with accompanying violence, become their means of support. Living on the fringe of society, they become Calgary's "throw away kids". Some have been raised within the child welfare system, some have run away from chaotic homes on numerous occasions, many are in and out of youth corrections programs. The vast majority have a history of school failures. With judicious identification of potential youth at risk through the schools as early as elementary school, and through supportive, coordinated community services, the adolescent school dropout rate can be lowered. A thorough reading of the Texas Dropout Prevention Plan by all interested stakeholders is encouraged prior to developing programs on this issue. The kind of kid who is at risk needs a "Stand and Deliver" commitment from community professionals. Too many adults have given up on them.

The J.I.M.Y. program (Joint Integrated Measures for Youth) is designed to provide short term stabilization to 16 and 17 year olds residing away from the parental home. Calgary service providers to youth told Task Force members repeatedly that the needs of high risk 16 and 17 year olds in Calgary, who have left abusive or restrictive families, are not being met. There is the belief among some policy makers, service providers, and young people themselves that 16 and 17 year olds are quasi-adults and are capable of living on their own. Many have survived innumerable foster home placements, and others have been in and out of group homes or correction facilities. Some have endured abusive or neglectful homes, never coming to the attention of the community until they run away.

Having been recipients of interrupted or chaotic early care, few are capable of adequately caring for themselves. Since they are legally minors, it is the responsibility of the community to ensure their needs are adequately met.

These young people have the right to live on their own, but they need supportive community services. At present they can live on public assistance, supplied through the J.I.M.Y. program, in approved room and board situations. We heard some of them report they are victimized physically, sexually, or financially in some of these situations. Without the skills or experience to live on their own, these young people gravitate to the streets.

We even heard of younger adolescents, in the twelve to fifteen age group, living on the streets and were surprised to hear these teens are frequently, unofficially, being considered as independent adults, in spite of their age. Although they are definitely in need of protection, neither their families nor child welfare are assisting them. The expanded services to this population should include out reach youth workers who can be where the young people are. This is not a population that goes seeking assistance. When these young people do seek assistance, as one presenter to the Task Force reminded us, the response should be immediate.

These youth need community support until their eighteenth birthday, but may still require community support as young adults. There is clearly a gap in our provision of services for young adults who do not qualify for programs once they become eighteen years of age.

Alberta has the highest number of teen parents of any Canadian province. The majority of these young women keep their babies, a minority are married. Within Calgary there are agencies providing some social service programs for this population, but these services are insufficient and uncoordinated. When "children have children", support needs to be in place to ensure child abuse does not occur.

When a young person is motivated to leave street life, there are insufficient services and alternatives readily available. Some adolescents, for whom street life has become normal, will not choose to leave the streets. The only option left to a caring community is to offer out reach services, such as those offered by the Exit program and AIDS Calgary. Through Exit program assistance, street youth can have their medical, dental, and some social needs met on a drop-in basis, without committing themselves to a program.

AIDS Calgary out reach workers assist sex-trade workers who do not want to leave the street life, but who want to be less at risk from violence. These adolescents require housing. The Task Force supports the effort of the John Howard Society and Alberta Family and Social Services in offering housing, called the Safe House, to street youth, young offenders and youth who have been in care. An extension of this form of assistance should be considered. It is possible that youth, with well-entrenched needs, will stay in this form of housing long enough to be assessed, their needs determined and some of them met.

Violent young offenders are youth with special needs. The Task Force heard of the slow delivery of court services to this population due to the backlog in Youth Court. We heard of custody centres that do not offer treatment, and also of habitual offenders not receiving support services. From comments Calgarians included in the survey to the Task Force, we saw that the public perception is that the Young Offenders Act is flawed in its implementation, and therefore contributes to a feeling of lack of safety in the community.

It is important the court process for violent young offenders be expeditious, and court-mandated treatment offered more frequently. The action focus group members thought most beneficial was the attempt to prevent the first time offender from repeating the crime. Through counselling to determine their needs, and offering support and treatment this can be achieved. This would be independent of the length of sentence.

Section IX: Elder Abuse

Introduction

Another perplexing and tragic area of violence brought before the Task Force was the abuse of the elderly. Statistical information in this area is sparse, but there is growing concern it is a significant problem in Calgary.

The best information available on the abuse of the elderly came to the Task Force from the Kerby Centre. This organization enjoys an excellent reputation for its work in the area of elder abuse. We are advised that of the 50,000 seniors living in the City of Calgary, approximately 20,000 use the Kerby Centre in one way or another.

The Kerby Centre estimates approximately 4% of senior citizens are living in abusive relationships. The Kerby Centre estimates over 3,800 senior citizens (55 years of age and beyond) are regularly physically abused.

Approximately 8% of our population is regarded as senior citizens. It is projected by the year 2020, 16 - 18% of Calgarians will be in this age group. The elderly constitute one of the most vulnerable groups in our society. Representatives from the Kerby Centre advise us that elderly abuse is being reported in unprecedented numbers.

In 1989, the Centre received 103 complaints. In 1990, the number doubled. The physical abuse of the elderly is perpetrated by spouses, by friends, and by their own children. The Task Force heard that the elderly are often beaten or terrorized for financial gain.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
ACAV undertake studies to examine, on an on going basis, the extent of elder abuse in the city.

Recommendation 2
City Council consider ways and means by which the Kerby Centre and other agencies could receive additional resources to enhance their staff to deal with this growing problem of elder abuse.

Recommendation 3
ACAV undertake further programs, in cooperation with the Kerby Centre and other agencies to form a network of assistance to the abused elderly. To date, this has been unavailable.

Rationale

Information is lacking in the area of elder abuse. Efforts must be made to assemble information that could provide a better understanding about the extent of the problem.

The Kerby Centre is an agency in the forefront of the family violence problem in Calgary, but they are seriously lacking staff to support the demand on their services. Ways and means must be examined to provide additional resources to deal with the violence being increasingly perpetrated against the aged.

There is a future need for new programs to deal with violence against the elderly, once information is available, as suggested in Recommendation 1 of this section. This whole area requires on going surveillance. It could be a larger social problem in our community than has been realized, and should be dealt with now.

Section X: Immigrant Women: A Case of Double Jeopardy

Introduction

Both research studies and conventional practice support the conclusion that family violence and abuse is identifiable across all cultural groups. As expressed to the Task Force by the Calgary Immigrant Aid Society:

> "The causes and manifestations of domestic violence at the most general level of analysis may even be said to transcend culture and ethnicity. Battering and abuse are part of a cycle that women and children find themselves in as a result of social and economic dependency relationships with men, which are reinforced by traditional patriarchal attitudes that identify women and children as possessions to be controlled."

The position of the battered immigrant woman is one of double jeopardy. Not only does she face violence within her own home, but her experiences are compounded by problems related to language and communication, lack of information, inaccessibility of resources, and the matrix of religious, cultural, and family values. Combined, these factors result in experiences different from those known to women who readily identify with the dominant culture in other aspects of their lives.

The feelings of powerlessness and entrapment experienced by all victims of family violence are even more acute among immigrant women. Particularly those from non-western countries. Feelings of powerlessness, entrapment and isolation are the result of circumstances encompassing:

a) Lack of language skills, compounded by the problem of not being eligible for ESL (English as a Second Language) programs.

b) Fear of calling the police.

c) Cultural pressures to "stay at all costs", coupled with the belief that family matters are private.

d) In some cultures, divorce cannot to be considered.

e) Fear of embarrassing the ethnic community in which they live or, even worse, being shunned by the ethnic community if the problem is made public.

f) Excessive dependency upon the husband, both economically and socially. Fewer immigrant women are in the work force, and when they are they frequently work for the minimum wage.

g) Immigrant women frequently do not understand how to access assistance programs. As a result, the services in place are often unused.

Other circumstances result in the isolation of the immigrant woman. She often faces violence alone, needing help for herself and her children.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
The City of Calgary urge the Government of Canada, in cooperation with other levels of government to provide resources for preventive programs such as educational workshops, support groups, and out reach support as part of the initial settlement/adaptation services provided to newly arrived immigrants.

Recommendation 2
ACAV undertake a public awareness campaign to be provided within the city's ethnic communities to disseminate information in a variety of languages on the availability of services that could be of assistance.

Recommendation 3
Wherever possible, programs offered to immigrant women be community-based to make them more accessible, and that such programs be designed to address the different needs of ethnic groups.

Recommendation 4
Existing mainstream services helping abused women must be adapted to meet the needs of ethnically diverse women.

Rationale

As new Canadians are welcomed to our country, it is our responsibility to provide them with information and orientation sessions that will enable them to understand and become part of their new environment. Programs for new Canadians relating to language, cross-cultural understanding, communication, family adaptation problems, changing family roles, and Canadian norms, and customs are necessary. It is unreasonable and unfair not to provide newcomers to the Country with cultural orientation.

Steps must be taken to ensure all members of our community are aware of services available to them. A number of excellent agencies are currently endeavouring to fulfil these communication needs, but they are, again, under funded, understaffed, and lacking coordination. ACAV clearly has a role, in cooperation with the existing agencies, to overcome the isolation of immigrant women in our community.

As a general statement, broader-based community programs are more effective than programs that are centralized and apart from the communities they are intended to serve. Programs involving immigrant women, to be effective, must be situated as close to home as possible, and must recognize cultural differences and mores. One example provided to us by the Calgary Immigrant Aid Society was a Hispanic family. In that culture it was acceptable for a wife to attend a workshop on child discipline, whereas this would not be acceptable for an East Indian woman because parenting skills are not considered to be an issue. For her, a program with a social focus would be culturally appropriate and therefore accessible to her.

Programs must be expanded for the training of first-language resource persons to serve as consultants and interpreters to mainstream professionals, helping immigrant women who are victims of violence. Professionals in the field should also be assisted to understand cross-cultural differences to be better able to give the needed support.

The availability of interpreters is a difficult and costly objective, but it is a significant factor in communicating information on programs.

Section XI: Urban Design and Safety

Introduction

Urban Safety issues in this report are related to safety concerns involving violence against people. Calgarians are still more likely to be victims of property crimes, than crimes against their person. As the city grows, our ability to remain as civilized as we are depends on awareness of the issues discussed in this section. Interviews, survey questions, and a presentation by Toronto's Metro Action Committee on Public Violence Against Women and Children (METRAC) are the sources of information for this section. Findings are of a more preliminary nature than in other sections, as urban safety for women and children is a fairly recent concern for Calgary officials.

It is apparent that accurate numbers on public violence were just as difficult to access as family violence statistics. National and local victimization statistics are also nonrepresentative of the incidents. Assault and sexual assault, the two major public crimes of violence against people, are frequently under reported. The National Urban Victimization Survey, undertaken by the Solicitor General's Department in 1982 and 1986, found that 62% of sexual assaults and 66% of assaults go unreported in Canada. We stress in this report: women and children are more vulnerable to these two profound forms of victimization than men. The fear of sexual assault, for example, rarely touches the lives of adult men. Social services agencies, like the Calgary Sexual Assault Centre, know from experience about the under reporting of these crimes, and the vulnerability of women and children. The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 1985, estimated that one woman is raped every 17 minutes, and one woman is sexually assaulted every six minutes in Canada.

One of the arguments used to discount women and the elderly (who are more likely to be women, since they out live men) about their fear of violent crime is to point out that they are victims of crime less frequently than men. Statistics on occurrences of violence are used as a weapon to discount fears expressed by these groups.

When under reporting is taken into consideration, we cannot be sure that women and the elderly are disproportionately fearful about physical crimes. Women do not have the upper body strength to be equally matched with a potential assailant. The same urban victimization survey was salient about one point in reported assaults and sexual assaults: whether the victim is male or female, the assailant is male. Women's fears are not unfounded. They know that only in a few cases can they, on their own, get the better of an attacker.

The most insidious aspect of this fear is it can effectively reduce community participation. People who do not feel safe in public places curtail their involvement in community life. This increasingly leads to the decline of communities.

The survey used to collect information for this report was mailed to 4,000 Calgary households. Our results establish that Calgary does not belong to all its citizens equally. Women are much more likely to feel unsafe in most urban public settings than men. They are also strong proponents of the need for self-defence strategies for Calgarians. For further analysis, refer to the survey results in Section XVI.

Our recommendations are in response to the survey, and concentrate on prevention of violence at the local level. Many of the recommendations are now standard practices in Toronto and Montreal, where organizations have been established to work on these problems. Before the work team on Urban Safety recommended in this Section moves into its action phase, we suggest that its members read the documentation the Task Force has collected from other Canadian urban centres, particularly from METRAC, and that they coordinate their efforts with the BRZ Public Safety Plan for Downtown Calgary.

Supplement implementation recommendations can then be added to the other ones we have identified in this report.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
ACAV) identify and develop ways and means to make Calgary a safer community for its citizens, particularly women, children,and elderly.

Recommendation 2
The Urban Safety work team assist community associations to conduct safety audits in their neighbourhoods.

Recommendation 3
The City of Calgary Planning and Building Department conduct a safety audit relating specifically to the downtown core, and recommend steps that can be taken to overcome the fact and the perception the downtown core of the City of Calgary is unsafe.

Recommendation 4
Calgary Transit designate one planner, preferably female, to review all plans for renovations and future construction on the transit system, considering the safety of women and children a priority.

Recommendation 5
The City of Calgary distribute safety audit guidebooks to all communities and interested organizations that identify areas of danger to vulnerable members of the community and recommend steps that can be taken to deal with dangerous locations.

Recommendation 6
Calgary Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with the Alberta Status of Women Action Committee, continue and expand their program of self-defence training for women.

Rationale

A recent Decima Poll shows that two out of three Canadians, by the year 2000, feel that they can expect to feei unsafe when they walk around in our cities. The knowledge that we now have identifies this as a social concern. The community has a major role in preventing all forms of public violence. Implementation of our recommendations not only benefits women and children, but the wider community of those who feel vulnerable to public violence. This includes the disabled, aboriginal people, homosexuals, sex-trade workers, visible ethnic minorities and the elderly. Enhancing the safety and security of the most vulnerable in our communities positively affect all citizens. Safe communities provide a better quality of life, and enhance opportunities for economic development.

The Urban Safety Work Team must emphasize community involvement throughout its work. This work team will consist of more city employees than other work teams, because many recommendations will fall within their areas of responsibility. Departments that must be represented on this work team are: Calgary Transit, Parks and Recreation, the Planning and Building Department, the Calgary Parking Authority, and Calgary Police Services.

It is also recommended that as many concerned citizens as possible, from the following groups, be represented: aboriginal women, visible minority women, disabled women, single mothers, older women, female students, academics, especially from the Faculty of Environmental Design, women from the media, and The Calgary Sexual Assault Centre. It is also appropriate for the Federation of Calgary Communities and the Downtown BRZ to be represented on this work team.

The Urban Safety Work Team would examine such things as:

- the installation of safe lighting and signs to designate safe escape routes in parkades
- safe street-level parking lots
- safety at bus and LRT stops
- ways and means to deal with landscaping with safety in mind
- assisting community organizations in the review of lighting.

The response to our survey indicates Calgarians feel unsafe when:

a) Walking to their vehicles in parkades and surface level parking lots.

b) Walking through underpasses.

c) Waiting for public transportation in bus shelters and on LRT platforms.

Safety Audits, as their name suggests, are inspections by community members of public locations that identify potential sources of danger to vulnerable members of a community. They were originally developed in Toronto by METRAC and guidebooks are available. The large response to our survey suggests to us that Calgary communities contain a valuable resource, i.e. Calgarians who want to actively get involved in making Calgary equally safe for all its members. Community associations must be encouraged, with support from their aldermen, to undertake audits in their neighbourhoods.

The perceived lack of safety by female users of parking facilities after dark also needs to be addressed by the Urban Safety work team. The appropriate city departments should upgrade the level of lighting and ensure standards meet the National Building Code, even in old parkades.

Calgary Transit can benefit from information collected in local Safety Audits. With community input from the audits, they will be able to address person-to-person safety issues that are related to public transportation. In the comments sections of the Task Force Survey, many respondents asked that upgraded safety measures be put in place on existing LRT platforms. Calgarians are less likely to feel unsafe when riding on the LRT or on buses; they are more fearful while waiting for public transportation. Women and the elderly, as "captive" public transportation users, feel more at risk.

Urban safety issues need to be addressed to ensure all Calgarians have equal access to a safe city, and do not curtail community participation. Broad-based community involvement ensure a safer Calgary.

The downtown Calgary core, particularly the Seventh Avenue strip, is perceived by many as a dangerous place both during the day and night. Negative comments were received with respect to the 8th Avenue Mall at night. Calgary's downtown provides many magnificent buildings and attractive public amenities. For many years, City Council and the Administration have endeavoured to encourage Calgarians to "come downtown" in nonworking hours. This is a laudable goal, but can only be achieved if Calgarians and visitors alike regard the downtown core as a safe place to visit.

In Calgary last year, six murders and 76 reported sexual assaults occurred downtown. It is estimated that two-thirds of the city's drug trafficking goes on in the core. The healthy vitality of the core reflects back on the image and prosperity of a city. Action must be taken by the City to change the perception of our downtown, and to make it a welcoming place.

Personal safety issues related to the transit system should be addressed first. We support the decision of the Downtown BRZ and Calgary Transit improved the lighting levels on the lst Street West LRT Station during October 1990. From the comment section of our survey, we learned of other problem areas in Calgary. We heard of bus shelters with only one entrance/exit opening, LRT stops with poor visibility to the street, a lack of public phones at LRT stops, a lack of wheel chair access to some LRT stops, low levels of lighting, and low levels of visibility at LRT stations by local police.

Changes in design should be discussed with women at community meetings and with women's organizations. Women are more likely than men to be captive-users of the public transportation system.

Many communities and organizations have not considered, or fully dealt with, safety. Guidebooks, such as those provided by METRAC in Toronto, are very useful indicators that can be of assistance to community organizations. These guidebooks should be prepared and distributed to a wide base of communities and organizations as possible in Calgary.

Self-defence programs for women stress the use of awareness, avoidance, and physical and verbal action. Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with community associations and women's groups, need to train more Alberta trainers before moving on to offering these courses throughout Calgary. With such a major percentage of our survey respondents seeing this service as necessary, it should be implemented. This service should be marketed to high-risk populations such as sex-trade workers, battered women, and students, as well as the general population.

Section XII: Prevention Through Education and Programs

Introduction

From day one of the Task Force, prevention of family violence and education were almost always mentioned in the same breath. In an Information Age, there is no technological reason for knowledge to be unavailable. The most effective way to deal with violence is to prevent it from happening. Four groups of citizens are seen to have education gaps regarding this social problem. They are:

1) the general public
2) potential victims and abusers
3) professionals
4) school children

All groups need to know that family violence is prevalent and unacceptable. It must be stressed that it is not a private matter, but a criminal activity that will be dealt with seriously. Potential victims, especially adolescents and women, need to learn how to protect themselves. Potential abusers must learn appropriate ways to solve problems without resorting to physical force. The costs to society of neglecting to use preventive strategies must be demonstrated. Many of today's victims will be tomorrow's assaulters, young offenders, and runaways. At the very least they will live less productive lives.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
ACAV establish a Domestic Violence Work Team to assist in the development of a family violence prevention and education media campaign.

Recommendation 2
ACAV take steps to provide a hotline service for victims of family violence.

Recommendation 3
Our School Boards create policy directives to the schools to ensure issues relating to family violence are identified and dealt with, and that existing curriculum on family violence for all levels of students in the system be expanded and become mandatory in all schools.

Recommendation 4
ACAV encourage the media to publicize local treatment and service programs more extensively, and provide the general public with information of an educational nature in matters relating to violence.

Recommendation 5
Professional training be developed in matters relating to family violence for medical doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, teachers, lawyers, judges, and the clergy.

Rationale

The family is a hallowed and revered institution in our community. It is a cornerstone of our society symbolizing love, harmony, happiness, and all that our citizens hold dear and important.

But to others, family means daily physical and mental abuse. It means fear and horror. It means sleepless nights. It means a prison with no release.

Family violence continues to be one of our society's most hidden crimes. This secrecy enables abusers to continue, unseen, using force to resolve conflict, and go undetected by the community.

Secrecy affects the victims too. Some do not know that violence within the family is criminal activity. Some do not believe anything can be done about intimate violence. Some think the violence must be their own fault. And some do not know where to turn for help.

Secrecy and the sanctity of the nuclear family have prevented neighbours, friends, and professionals from being as helpful as they could be. We heard of neighbours who turned up their stereos when they heard physical altercations next door. We heard of teachers who did not want to get involved in identifying abused children; they say they are untrained. In spite of this, more and more of them are reporting an ever widening set of indicators.

We heard of family physicians and emergency medical personnel who did not question the source of physical injuries they saw on patients in their care. Professionals need to know they are in the best position to detect signs of abuse. Especially in the case of children, they have a legal obligation to report the abuse. As was pointed out to us on numerous occasions no profession, or community, is exempt from the need for thorough training in the area of family violence.

The membership of the work team suggested in our recommendation should be comprised of public relations and media representatives appointed by ACAV, working in conjunction with representatives appointed from Alberta Family and Social Services, the Office for the Prevention of Family Violence, the Federal National Clearing house on Family Violence, and the private sector.

Victims of all forms of violence, their friends and family members, and even professionals repeatedly told the Task Force they did not know how to access services related to family violence. There are a number of organizations in the city that provide hotline services. Too often they are busy, and much too often receive requests for information in areas outside their expertise. What we require is one crisis line for victims of violence that is well-publicized and known in the community, so victims can readily and quickly access those individuals and organizations that can help them.

We recommend the establishment of a central 24-hour hotline to accommodate these needs. It is vital the hotline be served by empathetic and concerned listeners who can deal with people in crisis. A single telephone number will facilitate the publicizing of this service on billboards, public transportation advertisements, and in the front of the telephone book. The hotline service will maintain a centralized database for information about family violence-related services. It will also collect centralized statistics on family violence that will clarify the extent of this problem in Calgary.

We are aware that several information lines already in Calgary maintain generic information on services to Calgarians. We also are aware of several crisis lines that operate on a 24-hour basis. There are existing services where the addition of a program, or extension of an existing one specific to family violence, would be a "natural fit". None of the existing services could add these responsibilities to their present ones without human resources and technical updating, both of which involve financial resources.

The Task Force reiterates one cautionary note: For an information line to be helpful, community resources must be adequate and available to meet the needs of the victims and their families. It would be highly unethical to raise the expectations of Calgarians and subsequently the demand for service, if stable and free services for batterers, as an example, do not exist. The municipality, under their mandate to coordinate services through ACAV, would be responsible for establishing such a service. As far as time sequencing is concerned, it is necessary this service not be implemented until there is a more comprehensive coordination of the services responsible for family violence.

Assistance for victims must also be realized in the education system. Schools play an important role in socializing upcoming generations of citizens. They also must play a leadership role in preventing child abuse and subsequent inter-adult forms of abuse. Teachers, because they often spend more time per day with children than their parents, must be able to identify any change in a student's physical or emotional well-being. They should be considered the front-line system for detecting and acting on evidence of child abuse. They must also teach non-violent forms of interacting. Respondents to the Task Force's survey, 84%, agreed non-violent forms of interaction should be taught in Calgary's schools.

Because we heard of children being abused as early as six months of age, instruction at school entry-level can be none too soon. Through our questionnaires, focus meetings, and public hearings we heard very positive feedback concerning the "Who do you Tell?" program offered by the Calgary Sexual Assault Centre. We became aware that they offer their program only to schools that request it, and that they have an extremely long waiting list.

Our recommendation that the two School Boards enhance their curriculum on family violence for all levels of student would ensure equal access to this information for all students. Education of students to recognize and report violence is essential, and can best be dealt with in the school system.

We heard of pilot projects devoted to this issue being implemented in both Boards. St. Peter's Elementary School brought in a mediation expert to train elementary school children in the necessary art of conflict resolution and mediation. Now most school yard conflicts at St. Peter's are resolved by student mediation teams. A teacher in a North East Junior High in the Public Board has been working very closely with a YWCA/Junior League Project, which is bringing a four-part educational series to High School students. It also deals with conflict resolution and mediation skills, and because of the age of the students, also looks at dating violence. These are all positive endeavours, but leave the students who do not receive them at a disadvantage.

Curriculum on all types and manifestations of violence have been developed in Ontario and California. These could be used as models, and adapted for Alberta. The provincial Department of Education is responsible for leadership in this area. Local boards will be required to coordinate introduction of curriculum. Work teams on this topic could be comprised of parents, educators, police officers and representatives of community agencies who specialize in this field. The actual teaching can be done by school social workers, trained volunteers, teachers, and school police officers. Teachers may not feel they have a responsibility to deal with social problems that manifest themselves in their classrooms, but to ignore this one, with its wide-ranging ramifications of later delinquency, inability to learn, and aggressive acting-out will only ensure they spend less and less time teaching and more and more time dealing with the consequences of domestic violence.

During the month of October 1990 the Alberta Solicitor Generals' Department launched a Family Violence Initiative. Among its goals is the development of television announcements educating the public on the criminal nature of family violence. Their slogan is "Family Violence is a Crime". We are aware of the necessity of three other issues being included in any complete media campaign:

1) What to do if you know of someone who is being victimized or if you yourself are being assaulted.

2) Information on local resources for those experiencing violence in their lives.

3) The economic and human costs of family violence.

The power and influence of broadcasting and print is immeasurable. Many more Calgarians became aware of the problem of family violence during the Task Force's Public Hearings. The Task Force is grateful for the excellent support it received from local newspapers television and radio stations.

Many more Calgarians became aware of the problems of family violence during the Task Force public hearings, due to the commitment of our local media in providing extensive coverage of the hearings. This public awareness is vital, as it assists abused citizens to know where to get help.

It is important these issues remain in the foreground of the public consciousness. The screening of "The Burning Bed" several years ago in Calgary generated dozens of calls from victims requesting assistance as well as calls from potential volunteers who wanted to help. Prime time showing of such films would ensure exposure to the maximum number of viewers. We recommend increasing this type of media content for educational purposes.

People who work for various types of media must show judicious responsibility in how graphically they depict or describe violent acts that take place in the city. There is an increasing body of evidence that "copy-cat" behaviour, particularly amongst adolescents, is influenced by violent acts seen on television.

Based on our argument that the municipal level of government is more familiar with local needs and that a networking function is part of the responsibility of this level of government, we foresee the proposed work team addressing the silence surrounding family violence by using a media campaign. Since the Federal government also has responsibility in funding and facilitating public and professional education in the area of family violence, they would also be necessary partners in this venture. Their role should be limited to providing funds for the major portion of the production costs. And finally, the Alberta Family and Social Services and Office for the Prevention of Family Violence has a mandate to educate the province on issues of Family Violence, so they should also be involved. Their role should also be predominantly as funder. By setting up a Southern office for the Prevention of Family Violence, they would be able to take a more encompassing role in preventing family violence in the southern part of the province. The campaign, when successfully completed, could be beneficial both provincially and nationally.

There has been precedence for the Federal government financing national media campaigns. At our focus meetings, participants reminded us of the effectiveness of Participaction campaigns, campaigns to stop smoking and campaigns related to the dangers of drinking and driving. In the not-for-profit sector, we are familiar with the success of awareness campaigns by the Canadian Kidney Foundation in regards to used syringes, and the campaigns by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints encouraging family communication.

Local human resources must be included in any team established to develop a media campaign, as they will be aware of what will work with Calgary's unique population. An effective campaign must adapt to our increasingly pluralistic municipality. Professionals familiar with victims' needs must be a mandatory part of this team, as will those with media expertise. Several of the people we consulted felt public announcements by authorities in the community (male and female), like the mayor or chief of police, in conjunction with survivors' stories, would be a balanced way to send a message to the community. We are aware that campaigns like this, specific to family violence, have met with great success in the United States.

We recommended the formation of a work team composed of community associations, shelters, government, and business representatives will be necessary. As stated in the Recommendation on Coordinating Funding and Services, no one organization can be expected to develop and implement an effective public awareness campaign on their own.

Bringing the problem out into the open, exposing the myths, and talking about family violence is the first step in improving the situation for victims. Media exposure is the most effective way of reaching the largest number of our citizens. Task Force Public Hearings began the process of heightened awareness and it must be continued. Building close relationships with the media can benefit organizations working in this difficult area.

Throughout the Task Force's information-gathering process, we heard repeatedly how many professional groups do not receive training to handle the consequences of family violence. Many did not view it as criminal behaviour. In a city of Calgary's sophistication, not one of its post-secondary institutions offers a comprehensive course on family violence. Since the consequences of family violence are so far-reaching to the individuals involved and society, early intervention is necessary. With a large body of professionals unsure of what to do with these cases, victims are at a disadvantage. Training must begin early in post-secondary education, if not sooner.

Minimally, the areas of instruction include:

1) The dynamics of abuse.
2) Methods of assessment and intervention.
3) Appropriate responses, referrals and treatment.
4) Legal responses.

Professional organizations in Ontario have been educating their members for several years about family violence; their training initiatives could be used as models. There is not one profession that stands out as exemplary in educating members in regard to family violence in Calgary. We heard examples of neglect and even unethical conduct by professionals, from victims when describing advice or interventions they had received. Several survivors of wife abuse informed the Task Force that when they were attending marriage or couples' counselling, violence in their relationships increased. Issues of disagreement between the couple frequently resulted in assaults soon after the counselling sessions. Professionals who specialize in the area of family violence agree, until the violence is no longer a part of a relationship, marriage or couples-counselling is contra-indicated. It only serves to place the victim at much greater risk. Professionals without specialized training in violence are unaware of this.

Post-secondary education and regulation of professions falls within the provincial jurisdiction. The municipal government must encourage the more senior levels of government to address such associations as the Alberta Bar Association, the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Medical Association, the Alberta Psychological Association, and the Alberta Association of Social Workers to ensure they promote continuing education requirements, especially for professionals who have direct contact with victims.

Section XIII: The Justice System

Introduction

The justice system plays a major role dealing with the problems of family violence. The justice system cannot expect social service agencies, churches, the family, and concerned individuals to establish consequences for criminal activity. Only the justice system can perform that role. Others people and groups can support the court's efforts.

We heard from expert sources about a "cycle of inattention" in reference to the problem of violence. The police are reluctant to lay assault charges because the crown does not prosecute all cases; the crown does not prosecute all cases because the victims request them to drop the charges; the victims are threatened by the abuser to request the dropping of charges; this takes us back full circle to the attending officer, who determines not to lay an assault charge because the case might not go through the courts. This knowledge led some Calgarians in our survey to observe that the assailant, with the tacit collaboration of the police and crown prosecutors, appears to be in charge of justice. In the infrequent situations where the accused is successfully prosecuted, the sentence is often so light the prosecutor wonders why (s)he bothered to prosecute.

The "cycle of inattention" guarantees the justice system does not act as a sufficient deterrent to the perpetrator.

We have divided the recommendations in this section into two parts. One deals with recommendations in regard to policing, the second with recommendations in regards to the courts.

Recommendations - Police Response

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
Calgary Police Service Policy design and publish police procedures that establish family violence as a priority response. The Calgary Police Commission should be involved in this process.

Recommendation 2
The expanded policy and procedures contain the following requirements:

a) Treatment of all complaints of family violence as reported criminal offences.

b) Interviewing the parties separately so the victim will not be intimidated by the presence of the assailant.

c) Laying assault charges when reasonable and probable grounds exist on the basis of the complaint to do so.

d) Clear documentation in incident reports of reasons for not laying assault charges.

e) Use of resources in the ethnic minority communities in combination with criminal justice responses when the families are of an ethnic minority.

f) Instructions to the victim on where and how to write a Victim Impact Statement.

g) Completion of a written report documenting observed behaviour and physical injuries of both parties (this could be facilitated by using a check list format).

h) Providing the victim and assailant two cards, one containing current, local services for victims and abusers, and the other containing the officer's name, badge number, report number and follow-up telephone number.

i) Arrangement of transportation for the victim and her children to a shelter, friend's home, medical facilities, or other services as required.

j) Removal of the assailant to the local police station to lay the assault charge (many survivors of wife assault and child sexual abuse asked us why they had to vacate the family home when they had not been accused of committing a crime, while the assailant was free to remain in the comfort of familiar surroundings).

k) Removal of dangerous weapons for a reasonable period, rather than turning them over to the victim for safe-keeping.

l) If the attendance is for the violation of a restraining order, verification of the existence of the restraining order and treatment of the violation as a criminal offence (legislative change will be required for breaches of restraining orders to be treated as criminal).

Recommendation 3

Police officers be required to file written reports on all domestic disputes, even if when they do not have reasonable and probable grounds to lay assault charges.

Recommendation 4
Calgary Police Services continue to maintain a current file of all restraining orders in the city, and respond without delay to calls involving violations of restraining orders.

Recommendation 5
Forms for obtaining restraining orders should be available at all police stations, and a procedure established so victims can access a restraining order 24 hours a day. The format should be standardized with the safety concerns of the victim being paramount, i.e. the victim's address should not appear on a restraining order if she and her children are hiding from the assailant.

Recommendation 6
The Calgary Police Crisis Branch, the Victims' Assistance Unit, and Multicultural and Native Liaison Units be used more extensively in family violence cases.

Rationale

The individual discretion of police officers dealing with family violence cases was frequently mentioned to the Task Force. We heard of some officers who acted in a thorough and competent manner in responding to domestic disputes. We heard of officers who went beyond the "call of duty" to assist victims and their children; but more often we heard of officers who, reflecting traditional attitudes about the low priority of domestic disputes, responded slowly to calls for help, treated the victims like criminals, and generally viewed family violence as a nuisance rather than criminal activity. With the uneven response, we recommend fuller policy procedures be designed and published to the other service-providers who work with this population. As in any endeavour where change is required, we suggest that as many stakeholders, at as many levels as possible, be involved with the change. Front-line officers, as well as advocates for battered women, need to have input.

Because the Police Service is a hierarchy, top-down commitment from the Police Commission and Chief is also required. In all jurisdictions in Canada and the U.S., where family violence is taken seriously as a crime and the community has coordinated their services, the commitment of the Chief of Police has been pivotal.

Without adequate or appropriate training for policemen, we are aware that individual discretion can continue unabated. In 1984, the Solicitor General decreed that all police forces were to lay assault charges in family situations where reasonable and probable grounds to do so existed. In spite of the existence of this policy in Alberta, assault charges are not being laid in all warranted cases. This has been traced to the officers' lack of training in this area. Six years later, the Solicitor General's Department is designing the training package to go with the policy change.

After new procedures are developed, training surrounding their implementation will need to be introduced. We suggest the City Police Service consider using the comprehensive procedures followed by the City of Los Angeles Police Services.

The police officer is usually the first, and often the only, service-provider called to intervene in family violence incidents. It is important the attending officer has specific knowledge to be able, firstly, to make clear to both victim and abuser that assault is a crime, even between family members and, secondly, that resources exist to assist them.

Officers also need to be clear about a definition of "prima facie case". If evidence is available to support a prima facie case, the officer should lay charges. It is the role of the prosecution, not the police officer, to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" that a crime has been committed. It is the role of the courts, not the police officer, to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" that a crime has been committed.

Some officers still question whether a crime was committed and do not press assault charges. As in other crimes, the victim's permission is not necessary prior to laying a charge.

It is important for the front-line officer to know about the research finding that laying assault charges is an effective deterrent to repeat offences in domestic violence. One man who has been attending the Batterers' Group at the General Hospital told us:

> "It was an extremely embarrassing experience - the police took me down to the station to lay the assault charge. Some of my neighbours saw me being taken away. I knew then that I had a serious problem. The guys who were charged did best in our group."

The importance of documentation of domestic calls where assault charges are not laid may also need to be explained to officers. Family violence increases in severity and frequency over time if there is no intervention. Undocumented police visits, with no social service follow-up, are considered non-intervention cases. When the assailant eventually commits an assault that meets the criteria of "reasonable and probable grounds", if there is no record of police attendance, the assailant goes to court with a clean slate. With all calls and responses to homes documented, it is easier to build a case.

Arrest should also be used in cases of serious injury to the victim, where a weapon has been used, and where a restraining order is being violated.

We heard some victims are being discouraged from writing Victim Impact Statements, as "they don't do any good". Others have been told they must appear at the police station and write the statement in the presence of an officer. Other victims said they requested assault charges not be laid because they feared for their safety, but were never told about the deterrent value of charges, or that restraining orders were available. When the police do not involve social services agencies or their own Crisis Branch, they should assume the responsibility of notifying the victims of available community services and their value.

Handing out their business cards and information cards will be helpful to family members, but must not be replacements for laying of charges. Incident reports must determine the frequency and severity of previous violent incidents, the number of prior calls for assistance, and what the outcome of those calls were.

Most front-line workers of any kind are loathe to engage in paperwork, check list forms or computer entry forms could hasten the process, and increase the likelihood that it will be done. The documentation of the officer's observations can also take a similar format. It should contain descriptions of visible injuries, presence of children, presence of weapons, use of drugs or alcohol, or any other observation in the offence.

The question of who should leave the house is often contentious. The safety of the victim needs to be stressed, not who will be more inconvenienced or who has what rights. Until such time as our laws are changed so that the accused is required to leave the premises, the safety of the victim should determine who leaves the premises.

Removing weapons also needs to be clearly provided in policy and procedures. We heard of one woman who was instructed by the police to bring two of her husband's revolvers to the shelter with her.

We are aware that these recommendations require substantial additional funding and an additional administrative pressure. Violence is a crime and it must be treated as one. In the long run, energetic enforcement of the law in cases of domestic violence can reduce the frequency of such events.

Laying assault charges and overnight incarceration have proven in an American study to be two and a half times more effective in preventing future violence in a relationship than mediation, or sending the assailant for a walk around the block to cool off. When officers take time to listen to the victim and the offender is aware of it, the likelihood of subsequent assaults is reduced. When the victim is taken seriously by the police it is seen by the abuser as a judgment his behaviour is criminal. In situations where probability can not be ascertained, the careful questioning of the victim and documenting of the visit can be a deterrent. The policy of laying assault charges, and recording all calls and responses help the community realize the criminal nature of family violence.

The attendance of police on numerous occasions at the same address would eventually constitute probable grounds, and could lead to the building of a case. In the majority of cases where domestic homicides occur, the families are known to the police for previous violent incidents.

Restraining orders are issued when a judge is satisfied that a potential for harm exists if the abuser be permitted to remain in contact with the victim. At present, the Calgary Police Service receives a copy of all valid restraining orders in their jurisdiction. Sadly enough, in some cases the victims' lawyers, who are often Legal Aid appointed, have been known to forget to expeditiously send copies to the police. Under those conditions, the police cannot be blamed for not responding to restraining orders. But they must be encouraged to respond to calls for assistance without delay, when a restraining order is in place. It is common practice for women requesting prompt police assistance not to specify that it is their ex-spouse who is breaking into their home, but to say that "a man is breaking into my house", Police still treat violence between strangers as more serious, and respond promptly.

The Family Violence work team of ACAV must collaborate with the police in the development of a standardized restraining order. The format should be standardized with the safety concern of the victim being paramount. For example, the victim's address should not appear on the restraining order if she and/or the children are hiding from the assailant.

Consequences of a breach in the restraining order must be clearly presented. The words "The police shall arrest..." must be included, not the more discretionary wording of "The police may arrest...".

Restraining orders must also be dealt with more explicitly in policy and procedures. At present, because it is only a civil contempt to breach a restraining order, there is no motivation for the police to enforce them. Through their inaction, the police are unintentionally eroding the protection the victim feels she has received from the courts. There is even a possibility the abuser, emboldened by the inaction of the police, may step up his violence and harassment. The victim has next to no protection. Some women, hearing that restraining orders are only worth the cost of the paper, forego the expense of a lawyer, in spite of the risk, and try to hide and protect themselves.

Because the purpose of the protection order is to prevent further harm, police need to be trained to enforce the intent of the order. Criminal behaviour often accompanies the breach, such as watching and besetting, trespassing, disturbing the peace, breaking and entering, or further assault, and gives the officer grounds for filing charges.

The Calgary Region Domestic Violence Committee is investigating the possibility of having the breach of restraining orders become a quasi-criminal offence, so that police officers will have some reason to enforce them. Consistent, coordinated policies can then be developed for the enforcement of all restraining orders. Comprehensive training and monitoring of implementation will then become necessary.

The Calgary Police Service programs like the Crisis Branch and Victims' Assistance Unit must play a larger role in assisting police officers with domestic violence. The Victims' Assistance Unit should be used to offer follow-up support to all families where an officer has attended. This should be initiated within 48 hours of the call. The Crisis Branch, at present, is only requested to attend at 11% of domestic violence calls. This is not the correct usage of a valuable resource. We also are aware that the Multicultural Liaison Unit and the Native Liaison personnel are not fully used by the front-line officers for domestic disputes within these sub-communities.

Recommendations - Prosecution and Judicial Response

It is the recommendation of the Task Force that in the ares of prosecution and judicial response that:

Recommendation 1
Designated prosecutors be used to process family violence cases.

Recommendation 2
The Office of the Crown Prosecutor take a leadership role in ensuring that Calgary develops a court advocacy program for battered women.

Recommendation 3

Judges establish guide lines for the expeditious handling of family violence cases, for more appropriate sentencing of offenders, and that continuing education programs for judges include materials and workshops on gender bias issues.

Recommendation 4

Judges examine sentencing alternatives that include court-mandated treatment for offenders.

Rationale

Prosecutors, as representatives of the Crown, play a key role in holding abusers accountable for their violent behaviour, a role that can help prevent further violence. When designated prosecutors are used, as in Vancouver, the number of active cases remains uniformly high due to interest and commitment to the issue.

Prosecutors with the sensitivity and flexibility to recognize the special emotional complexities of family violence victims need to be sought. The specialized expertise developed by designated prosecutors results in more accurate case evaluation, and more effective prosecution. Designated prosecutors are able to develop a bond of trust so fewer victims request the dropping of assault charges.

Women who do not have the support of court advocacy services are more likely to request their mandatory assault charges be dropped against their abusive husbands. Battered women are often unaware criminal charges can deter future violence, that treatment can be mandated for their husbands by the courts, or that services exist for them in the community. They need information and support to navigate the criminal justice system.

At present, Calgary does not have a court advocacy service for battered women. In some jurisdictions, these services are offered by the office of the Crown, by victims' assistance programs of the police, or by social service agencies. It is not important what organization offers these services, but because the Crown is most directly affected by their non-existence, we urge they be encouraged to develop such a service.

It should be pointed out the majority of respondents to the Task Force's survey thought the criminal court system was doing a poor job assisting the victim. The Calgary community is aware of this gap in service.

In cities where court advocacy programs are well established, the advocates provide important information and support to both victims and prosecutors. They prepare cases for court, familiarize the victims with the criminal justice process, accompany the victim to court, connect the victim to services in the community, prepare the victim psychologically to deal with the abuser's harassment, intercede with employers, and arrange for transportation and child-care on court days. In all jurisdictions where court advocacy and accompaniment is introduced, the follow through on mandatory assault charges doubles or triples.

Judges should ensure they recognize and eliminate any ingrained sexist biases that might exist within the law, its application, or within their thinking that can affect their interpretation and application of the law as it pertains to wife abuse.

Traditional values of a society are reflected in and are usually reinforced by its social institutions. They are imbedded in the hearts and minds of those who participate in these institutions. The judiciary system is no exception. Often, traditional values are frozen concepts that prevent the recognition of new knowledge and insights. In the area of wife abuse, many traditional values and stereotypes operate to disadvantage women and expose them to further violence and abuse. Judges must recognize what these biases are, and know how they operate so they do not affect their decision making ability.

Judges are the ultimate legal authorities in the criminal justice system. If they fail to treat family violence cases with the seriousness they deserve, the crime is trivialized, the victim receives no protection, the violence continues, and the prosecutors and police lose interest in dealing with these cases. When the attacker receives a light sentence, the perception emerges that the crime is insignificant, and continues the violent behaviour with no intention of assuming responsibility for criminal actions. When the judiciary is not firm, the financial investment in shelters, police service, and victim assistance is wasted.

The majority of respondents to the Task Force survey thought the criminal court system was doing a poor job of providing justice quickly, and that sentences for violent acts were not severe enough.

Judges must develop guide lines to expedite family violence cases through the Courts. It is well known that consequences for all crimes need to be swift, but in domestic cases it is even more necessary since the personal security, and even the lives of the victims, might depend on it.

Many women who have experienced violence at the hands of their spouses report they want the violence to end, not the relationship. Judges should be aware the combination of mandatory assault charges and court-mandated treatment, are the most likely means to achieve that goal. We recommend treatment regardless of whether or not the sentence is incarceration, a fine, or probation. With first time offences of common assault, a stern admonition from the bench, in addition to diversion to a treatment program may be enough to bring about responsible behaviour from the abuser.

We are aware of the very limited treatment programs presently available in Calgary for men who batter. This recommendation is contingent upon the provision of such services, which are recommended in Section XV of this report.

The criminal justice system should not underestimate their ability to influence society's perceptions on the seriousness of family violence. It is often said the legal system is reactive to social change. In this case, the criminal justice system can, in collaboration with other community professionals, be part of the vanguard against violence in the home.

Section XIV: Commercialization of Violence Against Women and Children

Introduction

No report on public violence would be complete without referring to the relationship of pornography to violence. Surprisingly, the Task Force did not hear many references to this linkage during the Hearing process.

It is undeniable that commercialized violence against women and children degrades women and children, and reinforces and supports attitudes that it is acceptable to be violent toward women and children. We are aware of the common feeling that adults should be able to conduct their lives with as little interference or censorship from the Government as possible, however, there is a public responsibility to reduce the potential of violence against women and children inherent in pornography.

Pornography is big business and it continues to expand. The dynamics of pornography contribute to the subordination of women, and to the sexual abuse of women, girls, and boys. The Courts of Canada, particularly the Alberta Courts, have recognized that pornography has effects on attitudes and behaviours that diminish women's equality rights. Pornography is defined by the Alberta Courts as material that portrays sexual activity wherein one or more participants is degraded, dehumanized, and portrayed as objects of sexual or physical abuse. Pornography is also non-violent material which shows the sexual abuse of children.

Canada's primary source of pornographic material is the United States. The largest consumer group of pornography is young males between the ages of 12 and 17 years, 35% of whom in a recent study expressed a particular interest in watching sexually violent scenes of rape, torture, and bondage.

The wide availability of VCRs and videos, combined with the difficulty of law enforcement in this area results in a situation where youth are often able to view violent "adult" videos without restriction. Because this medium has such powerful socializing effects and because sex education has only recently become mandatory in Alberta schools to counteract that effect, young males exposed to pornography are learning to equate sex with violence and disrespect for women.

Exposure to this type of violent pornography increases male rape fantasies, aggressive tendencies and behaviours, desensitises them to violence towards women, and increases their tolerance for rape.

The connections between domestic violence and pornography are now clear. Many battered women report their partners force them to act out behaviours they have seen in pornographic material, or beat them when they refuse.

Steps can be taken by City Council to control the availability and distribution of pornographic material.

Recommendations

Is is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1

Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring opaque barriers to be placed over the public display of so-called "sexual" or "male entertainment" magazines.

Recommendation 2

Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring complete separation of sexually-explicit "adult" videos from the general stock of all video stores throughout Calgary.

Recommendation 3

Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring the visible and public display of store policies regarding purchase and/or rental age requirements and acceptability ratings for sexually-explicit "adult" videos available for rental and purchase.

Recommendation 4

Calgary City Council urge the Provincial Government to pass legislation making store owners responsible for determining the age of persons seeking to rent or purchase sexually explicit "adult" videos, and the minimum age should be 18 years.

Recommendation 5

Calgary City Council urge the Provincial Government to establish a Film and Video Classification Board, like the one in British Columbia, to monitor and regulate the sexually-explicit "adult" videos available for rental and purchase in Alberta.

Rationale

At present, no provincial body regularly reviews and rates videos made available for sale or rental. The Alberta Motion Picture Censor Board reviews films and videos on a complaint-basis, but does not regularly classify videos made available for sale or rental. Similarly, the Attorney General's office, the RCMP, and the City of Calgary police force respond to complaints regarding pornographic videos on a reactive basis, rather than on a proactive basis.

The various parties responsible for the endorsement of obscenity laws state they receive few complaints and do not tend to maintain separate documentation of complaints that are registered. The people who might register complaints about pornographic videos are generally not those who are viewing such material. Community standards of tolerance tend to be determined by the consumers of pornography, rather than by the general population. This is reflected in the impression put forth that suggests a classification board was not necessary in Alberta, because the community tolerates the existence of pornographic videos.

This reasoning was based on the agency's lack of complaints, and reports of high consumer demand for pornography found throughout the province.

This lack of provincial standards and control of sexually explicit "adult" videos allows the problem to be easily dismissed. Without clear regulation, discretionary actions take place throughout the video cassette rental/sale system. For instance, the owner relies on the distributor to determine the acceptability of the videos while the store clerk decides who is allowed to rent sexually explicit "adult" videos and everyone is operating under the desire to make a profit.

The Province of British Columbia, through its Film Classification Board, regulates the sale and rental of sexually-explicit "adult" video cassettes for private and home use. The director of the B.C. Film Classification Board is authorized to require removal of specified offensive materials, including coercive sex, sex involving children or animals, and incest.

Once the sexually-explicit "adult" videos have been approved, they are marked with a decal. Under B.C. legislation, it is an offence to offer for sale or rental a sexually explicit adult video which does not carry a B.C. decal of approval. Such videos must be out of sight and reach of persons under the age of 18. It is an offence to sell or rent such videos to persons under the age of 18.

A recent random sample of 87 video stores in the City of Calgary was conducted. 77 stores were classified by the researcher, and 10 stores were classified as adult-only. Of the 77 general stores surveyed, 76 carried sexually-explicit "adult" videos, with a total of 18,953 counted. The percentage of sexually-explicit "adult" videos ranged from .2% to 32% of the total stock carried, with a tendency toward 6% of the stock being sexually explicit "adult" videos. It was found that the general stores surveyed carried an average of 249 sexually-explicit "adult" videos per store. Of interest is many of the general stores carry more sexually-explicit "adult" videos than do some of the adult-only stores.

The majority of the stores surveyed indicated that the owner/manager was responsible for determining the acceptability of the videos offered.

Some attempts have been made by the City Council in the past to regulate video and "peep" stores in Calgary. On May 15, 1989, City Council unanimously passed the following motion:

> "Be it resolved that the administration request representatives of video sales/rental stores to volunteer to separate material that could be considered pornographic from general videos in order that children not have ready access to material that may be considered unwholesome or pornographic; AND be it further resolved that should voluntary compliance fail, a by-law be drafted by the Administration making such separation necessary."

The intention of this motion may be honourable, but it has proved ineffective.

On March 11, 1991, City Council considered a by-law restricting "peep shows" to heavy industrial areas at least 460 metres away from each other. Again, the intentions are honourable and appropriate, but a question arises as to the jurisdiction of City Council to adopt such a by-law. The Provincial Government must assume some responsibility to control the distribution of pornographic material. The establishment of a film and video classification board and legislation controlling locations of "peep shows" would be positive steps.

Section XV: Male Related Issues

Introduction

It is puzzling there is such a lack of services available for men, when you consider they are usually the perpetrators of violence in our community. Simplistically put, it seems obvious violence could be reduced if men who perpetrate the violence could obtain treatment designed to help them desist from such criminal acts.

For example, the only existing program in the City of Calgary for male batterers is provided by the Pastoral Institute, a non-profit organization in existence since 1962. This Institute provides a family violence program, a segment of which is known as the "Anger Management Program", directed to persons who physically, sexually, or psychologically abuse their partners. To participate in this program costs approximately $400.00.

Certain observations in this area are widely recognized, but worthy of repetition. Firstly, a high percentage of male batterers have been battered themselves as children and youths. Secondly, as evidenced by two male batterers who courageously attended the public hearings, many of these men seek and need help and guidance to overcome their violent characteristics. In Calgary, there is no help unless you can afford it, and even then the facilities of the Pastoral Institute are severely taxed.

Thirdly, although the majority of the attention to family violence relates to the battering of women, there is a growing body of evidence suggesting women can also be violent. As a result, men are now the victims of violence and are embarrassed to seek assistance from the police or other agencies.

Men's groups are a new phenomenon in Canada, and Calgary is one of the cities where they are beginning to grow. The Task Force received many presentations from men, the largest group being those who had been sexually or physically abused as children.

These men told us of the psychological aftermath of their abuse, which men usually deal with alone because of male socialization and lack of services for men.

We also had a presentation from a fathers' rights group, and representatives spoke to us from a group of men who meet regularly for personal growth reasons.

These male groups are useful and exist for legitimate reasons. They allow men to gather and share experiences, acquire self-knowledge, and learn how to continue and enhance their relationships within marriage and after its collapse.

More attention must be directed towards assisting male batterers. It is envisioned that if facilities and services existed that could help these men, that court-mandated treatment could be useful in reducing the extent of family violence.

Recommendations

It is the recommendation of this Task Force that:

Recommendation 1
City Council approach the Provincial Government as a matter of urgency, to provide funding in order to reinstate the program terminated at the General Hospital in Calgary that provided treatment and services to men who batter their wives.

Recommendation 2
ACAV examine, on an on going basis, ways and means by which facilities and services can be extended to assist men who batter.

Recommendation 3
Alberta Mental Health should be encouraged, as a pilot project, to train therapists to work with male survivors of childhood sexual abuse in order that programs for this sector of our population could be commenced and built upon at the earliest possible date.

Rationale

We regard the lack of services for male batterers to be an issue of extreme urgency. There is a vacuum in our service delivery system that must be filled immediately. The program previously conducted at the General Hospital was structured to assist male batterers. At present, the only program available in the City of Calgary is the one provided by the Pastoral Institute. We require trained therapy teams to provide services to male batterers, with the objective of breaking the cycle of violence in our community. A first step would be the reinstatement of the program previously provided at the Calgary General Hospital.

The whole area of treatment for male batterers requires on going examination. This is another example of a gap in services in Calgary, which requires more available treatment opportunities for those who batter women.

With almost weekly disclosures of new reports of sexual abuse against young males, it is essential efforts be made to assist those who bear the psychological scars of such abuse. At present, we do not have enough trained professionals, the facilities or the funding to give help to the victims of these tragic circumstances. We must take steps to rectify this failure.

Section XVI: Survey and Results

Introduction

The purpose of the survey was to solicit opinions from a range of Calgarians about violence in the Calgary community. Specifically, perceptions were sought on the following questions or themes:

1. Calgarians' opinions on the scope of violence in Calgary;
2. Calgarians' opinions about how safe they feel alone in public places in Calgary after dark;
3. Calgarians' opinions about the criminal justice response to violence in Calgary;
4. Calgarians' opinions about the seriousness of various types of violence in Calgary;
5. Calgarians' knowledge about the resources that exist in Calgary to assist those who are experiencing violence in their lives.

Four thousand surveys were mailed, early in November 1990, to a sample of randomly selected Calgary households, taken from the 1990 Civic Census. One adult member (18 years of age or older) per household was requested to respond to the survey. We were interested to discover which partner in married and commonlaw relationships chose to respond to the survey on behalf of their household. Figure 1 shows the female partner was much more likely to respond. As women are more vulnerable to victimization, it is probable they would have a more vested interest in responding to surveys on violence.

Thirty four percent of the surveys (1,353) were completed and returned to the Task Force. The results of the survey, in Appendix E, are considered accurate within plus or minus 2.6%, 19 out of 20 times. Readers will notice in the summary in Appendix E, the total number of responses varies from question to question. This is because some survey respondents missed questions or chose not to answer some questions.

Opinions About the Scope of Violence In Calgary

The questions in Section II of the survey sought to explore the scope of violence in Calgary. When Calgarians were asked if they thought their neighbourhood, compared to other areas in Calgary, had a higher amount of violence, about the same or lower, 59% of the population considered that their neighbourhood had a lower amount of violence, compared to only 9.9% who thought violence was higher.

The second question in this section asked if Calgarians thought violence in their neighbourhoods had increased, decreased, or remained about the same in the past twelve months. 51.6% of the respondents thought violence in their neighbourhood decreased in the past twelve months, in comparison to 16% who thought it had increased during the same time period. Close to 31% of those surveyed were uncertain about this and answered that they did not know. When an analysis is done by ward in Figure 7 (ward boundaries are defined on the map at the end of this section), more than 20% of respondents in Ward 9 thought violence was higher in their neighbourhoods, and it had increased in the past twelve months. Forty percent of those surveyed in Ward 10 thought violence was higher in their neighbourhoods, and over 30% thought it had increased in the past twelve months. Twenty-five percent of Calgarians in Ward 8 thought their neighbourhoods had higher amounts of violence than other Calgary areas, and 32% of respondents in Ward 5 felt violence in their neighbourhoods had increased in the past twelve months.

The initial analysis of these two questions suggests Calgarians find the scope of violence to be low in their neighbourhoods and on the decrease. The analysis by ward suggests these impressions can be influenced by where one lives in the city. An examination of a related question, 1.1, continues the positive picture. In that question, Calgarians were asked if they agreed or disagreed people would come to their aid if they were violently attacked. 47.7% of the respondents agreed that someone would come to their aid if they were violently attacked. Twenty-five percent disagreed with the statement, and 27% were undecided. For these three questions there was very little difference between the opinions of males and females.

Another related question, 1.6, asked Calgarians whether they agreed or disagreed about the need for Calgarians to know self-defense strategies. 66.4% of those surveyed agreed Calgarians need to know self-defense strategies. Only 16.6% of the population disagreed with the statement, and 16.9% were undecided. The question must now be asked: Why would people who feel their neighbourhoods have lower levels of violence be so strongly in favour of knowing self-defense strategies? The response to question 1.6 suggests a majority of Calgarians feel enough vulnerability when living their daily lives in Calgary that they think they need to know self-defense strategies. A breakdown of the results for question 1.6 by gender indicates women feel they need these skills more than men. 71.3% of the females in comparison to 57.4% of the males agreed they needed to know self-defense strategies. We can surmise that women, as theory suggests, feel more vulnerable in the urban setting and could see self-defense strategies as necessary safety precautions.

Another related question, 1.13 (illustrated in Figure 10), asked if respondents imposed restrictions on their lives due to fear of violence. 52.7% of females agreed they do and 61.9% of males disagreed. These results confirm that though they may be of the opinion that violence levels are lower than average in their areas, women are not taking chances. Another breakdown of the results, by age (Figure 11), shows that 48% of the elderly agree they impose restrictions on their lives due to fear of violence.

Moving beyond gathering people's opinions on the scope of violence, question 2.2 asked the respondent how many people they knew personally in Calgary who had experienced a violent incident within the past twelve months. 55.5% knew of no incidents of violence in the lives of personal contacts within the past twelve months. However, 44.5% of those surveyed knew one or more persons who had experienced a violent incident in Calgary within the past twelve months (Figure 8). Even when accounting for the fact that some respondents might know the same person and report this incident more than once, this is a staggering figure. Researchers who have done thorough incidence studies in the area of violence, tell us that this type of question is apt to garner more accurate numbers than asking respondents directly if they themselves have experienced a violent incident.

Question 2.4 asked those surveyed if they had personally experienced a violent incident within the past twelve months. 12.3% of respondents had been personally victimized. 10.9% of the females surveyed and 14.5% of the males had experienced a violent incident within the past year. (Wards 10, 13, and 14 had rates over 14% - Figure 10). These numbers are in keeping with national and provincial studies of reported crimes of violence.

Question 2.5 was included in the survey to determine whether the violent incidents in the previous question had taken place in a public place or in the home. The results show that females are victimized more often in private (47.4%) than in public (39.1%); however, the numbers indicate neither location is very safe for females. Males are predominantly victimized in public (63.8%). More than 50% of those who responded in the "other" category indicated that their violent incidents occurred at work.

To summarize this section, Calgarians in our survey are of the opinion that violence in their own neighbourhoods is lower than other neighbourhoods. A closer scrutiny shows some neighbourhoods are perceived by their members to be less safe than others, where personal violence is concerned. Reported incidence numbers indicate, conservatively, that the scope of violence in Calgary is such that 12% of Calgarians are potential victims of violence per year.

Opinions About How Safe Calgarians Feel in Public Places

In Calgary After Dark

The majority of our respondents, regardless of gender, felt unsafe in five of the public places included in the survey as options. These were:

1) walking to your car in a parkade (68.1%);
2) walking through underpasses (60.5%);
3) walking to your car in an outdoor parking lot (54.4%)
4) waiting on the LRT platform (52.3%); and
5) waiting in a bus shelter (50.8%).

This information, because four of the five items deal with transportation issues, suggests fear of violence could be restricting the evening activities of people who have to travel outside their neighbourhood.

When a breakdown by gender is done, we find that Calgarian women feel somewhat safe after dark in their own city only when driving their cars (86%), riding the bus (64%), or walking in their own neighbourhoods (62%). In a national study in which women were asked the question about feeling safe walking in their neighbourhoods after dark, 38% reported feeling unsafe to 12% of males. Our study shows that 36% of Calgary women feel unsafe walking in their neighbourhoods after dark, in comparison to 12% of males. This similarity to results from other large Canadian cities (Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver) imply Calgarians can no longer continue to view their city as a small town. We are a large and growing city and must be prepared to address "big city" issues like violence and safety.

Even in the relatively safe situations mentioned above, females feel substantially less safe than males. Jogging, walking on campuses, and using automatic banking machines are also considered dangerous evening activities by Calgarian women.

Question 1.2 is related to Calgarians' perceptions on public safety issues. In it, respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that the way the Calgary media reported local violent incidents increases fear of violence. The majority of Calgarians (52.8%) agreed the media's manner of reporting violence does contribute to fear of violence. Of interest, is that males agreed with this more often. An explanation for this can be found in studies that suggest women use the information on violence supplied by the media to protect themselves from serial rapists, for example, or from inadvertently frequenting places where violent activity is more likely.

Another relevant question to this section is 1.3. In this question, those surveyed were asked whether they agreed or disagreed city officials take their concerns about violence seriously. Only 39.5% of Calgarians agreed with this statement, with almost an identical group being undecided (39.5%). On the whole, women were more sceptical than men. The large number of undecided respondents can be indicative of several things. A possible reason is that until the present initiative, officials themselves were less inclined to direct attention to community and family violence, so Calgarians had few indicators by which to measure whether their concerns were taken seriously. When we look at this issue more closely and break the results down ward by ward (Figure 2), we find that more than 20% of Calgarians in 7 wards (Wards 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11 and 13) disagree that officials take their concerns about violence seriously. More than 30% of Calgarians in Wards 9 and 10 are of the opinion that city officials do not take their concerns about violence seriously.

The final question related to this theme is 1.8. Calgarians were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that lighting is adequate in public places in their neighbourhood. Very few respondents were undecided about this issue, and 62% agreed that lighting was adequate. However, more than 35% of Calgarians in Wards 8 and 9 disagreed that lighting was adequate in their neighbourhood (Figure 4). Over 25% of respondents in Wards 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 and 11 also disagreed that lighting was adequate in their neighbourhoods. Adequate lighting is the simplest way to enhance a community's sense of safety. We can see from our results Calgarians do not perceive they have equal access to a safe city, and certain parts of the city need more attention.

To summarize this section, we can see public places are not perceived to be safe by the majority of Calgary's women and elderly. The media's contribution to an increased fear of violence is acknowledged by the majority of Calgarians. Calgarians seem divided on the issue of city officials' concern about violence. And lack of adequate lighting is perceived to be a problem in four wards.

Opinions About the Criminal Justice System

About Violence In Calgary

When questioned about the work of the local police, 32.3% of the respondents felt the police were doing an average job in responding promptly to calls. Another 31.2% thought they were doing a good job in that regard. 28.3% did not know what quality of work the police do. This is understandable if one has little reason to come in contact with the police.

When responding to the question about laying assault charges when there is reasonable and probable grounds to do so, 37.5% of those surveyed did not know how well the police fared in this regard. 29.8% of the respondents thought they did an average job.

When it comes to being approachable and easy to talk to, 44.3% of those surveyed felt the police were doing a good job. This was contradicted by the numerous comments in Section 8, the largest number of which referred to negative interpersonal skills on the part of individual officers. It can only be construed those who felt the police were unapproachable and difficult to talk to, were also those who wrote comments to that effect on their surveys.

The police were considered by 37.5% of respondents to be doing an average job of supplying information to the public on services to reduce violence. For all opinions regarding the police, there was very little difference between males and females.

The criminal court system was, in the opinion of Calgarians, doing a poor job of providing justice quickly. Two out of three respondents shared this opinion. The slowness of justice provision has a profound negative impact on victims of violence, especially children and those who know their attackers.

The criminal court system was also perceived to be doing a poor job when it comes to helping victims of violence. 56.8% of Calgarians expressed this opinion in their surveys. Of interest is the fact that more males than females indicated this response. There is congruency between the results of this survey question and information that the Task Force heard from professionals in the community, especially those who work with women and children who are victims of violence.

The criminal court system was viewed by 43.9% of Calgarians to be doing an average job of determining whether the accused is guilty or not. Two groups of equal size (30%) indicated that they felt the criminal court system was doing a good and average job of protecting the rights of the accused. This proved to be a confusing question for many people. They commented at the end of the survey that they thought the criminal court system was doing "too good" a job of protecting the rights of the accused, often at the expense of the victim and the wider community.

The final question in this section dealt with sentencing. Only one other response in the survey was so strongly one-sided. It is the opinion of 81.3% of Calgarians that sentences handed down by the Court to those who have committed violent acts were not severe enough. This is a clear message to the judiciary that the community perceives more severe sentencing will have a deterrent value. In the comments section of the survey, many respondents elaborated on their response to this question by recommending the combination of treatment and appropriate sentences as the ideal solution for violent perpetrators.

Opinions About the Seriousness of Various Types of Violence In Calgary

This question was developed to determine whether Calgarians were concerned about all types of violence equally. The following list is presented in order of seriousness, with the type of violence of most concern at the top:

1. violence toward children
2. gang violence in the streets
3. violence in schools
4. violence toward the elderly
5. violence toward a spouse
6. public violence toward women
7. inter-racial violence

Question I.7 was considered for analysis in this section because it deals with school violence. Calgarians were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that non-violent forms of interaction should be taught at Calgary schools. The very clear message was that 84% of those surveyed agreed. This is an indication that the community expects institutions like schools to provide guidance to children if the primary institution, the family, is unable to do so.

Knowledge of Resources That Exist in Calgary West To Assist Those Who are Experiencing Violence in Their Lives

Women are the primary users of social service resources and so it seems plausible that they would be better informed about community availability of them. Such proved to be the case in our survey. For every service, females were much more likely to be knowledgeable about its existence and how to gain access to it. The following list presents services in Calgary and the percentage of respondents who could access the service on behalf of a friend:

1.	a shelter for battered women	60.6%
2.	free legal counselling	54.1%
3.	a child welfare worker	48%
4.	a crisis line for adults	43.7%
5.	a crisis line for children	43.6%
6.	a counselling service for sexual assault survivors	42.6%
7.	a crisis nursery	31.3%
8.	a program for street youth	27.3%
9.	a program to assist victims of crime	24.6%
10.	a program for men who batter their wives	21.4%
11.	a program for parents of violent adolescents	16.7%
12.	a program for abused seniors	15.4%

The shelters for battered women definitely have the highest profile of violence-related programs and services in Calgary, and Calgarians seem confident that they could supply a friend with information on them. More than 50% of Calgarians could also direct a friend to free legal counselling. After those two on the list, fewer resources are known well enough for accurate connection with appropriate services to take place. These results agree with our Public Hearing findings, where Task Force members heard consumers of service had difficulty finding the assistance they needed. It is not surprising that one of the newest services, a program for abused seniors, is the least well-known.

Two questions, 1.4 and 1.5, are relevant to a discussion of resources and information dissemination about them. In question 1.4, Calgarians were asked if they agreed or disagreed that social services agencies working in the area of community and family violence are able to meet the requests for their services. A majority, 59.3%, disagreed social agencies are able to meet the requests for services (Figure 3). The next biggest group of respondents were undecided at 28%. Women, who are the consumers of services, were stronger in their disagreement. Calgarians are definitely aware social service agencies are struggling to meet the community's needs.

Question 1.5 asks respondents whether they agree or disagree that adequate information on community and family violence is available to Calgarians. Very little can be learned about this response, as 35% disagreed, 34% agreed and 30% were undecided.

Questions 1.9, 1.10 and 1.11 were included to determine whether Calgarians would agree to offering various types of support to those people in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives. For 1.9, which asked whether those surveyed would agree or disagree that they were willing to donate of their time, 38.8% were undecided. The next biggest group (34.9%) was those who agreed that they would be willing to donate time to help those who are dealing with violence in their lives. This supports Calgary's image as the "Volunteer Capital of Canada" and is a positive indicator that one out of three Calgarians would like to donate time to ameliorate this problem.

Question 1.10 asked whether respondents would agree or disagree that they would be willing to have their taxes increased to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives. 42.2% of our respondents disagreed with having their taxes increased to help victims of violence. Males were stronger in their disagreement than females. However, the most interesting fact is that 33.5% of Calgarians would agree to having their taxes raised for this purpose. On a similar question on a survey in the U.S. approximately 8% of respondents would agree to having their taxes raised. Some Calgarians appear to be generous about assisting others.

The final question, 1.11, which requires respondents to indicate whether they would be willing to donate from after-taxes income to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives resulted in a draw. 36.8% of those surveyed disagreed that they would donate for this cause, while 36.4% agreed that they would. Males were more likely to disagree and females to agree to make donations after taxes. How a society chooses to spend its money is indicative of its values. This survey suggests that Calgarians are learning to value a non-violent society.

The final section of the survey tells us that 484 males and 857 females responded. The largest number of these respondents fell into the baby-boom age group of 25 to 44 years of age. Fifty nine percent of the respondents were married. The largest group had received vocational or technical college training, followed closely by university graduates. The average family income was $30,000 to $39,999.

In conclusion, the survey has confirmed many findings that were also presented to the Task Force in focus groups, public hearings and written briefs. Information, implications and recommendations throughout the report reflect the results of this survey. The response of Calgarians to the survey was surprisingly large. Calgarians are very conscious of issues relating to violence, and clearly expect those so empowered to take action to ensure that Calgary becomes a safer community.

Figure 1 - Survey Respondents in Relationships
(Survey Questions 7.1,7.3)

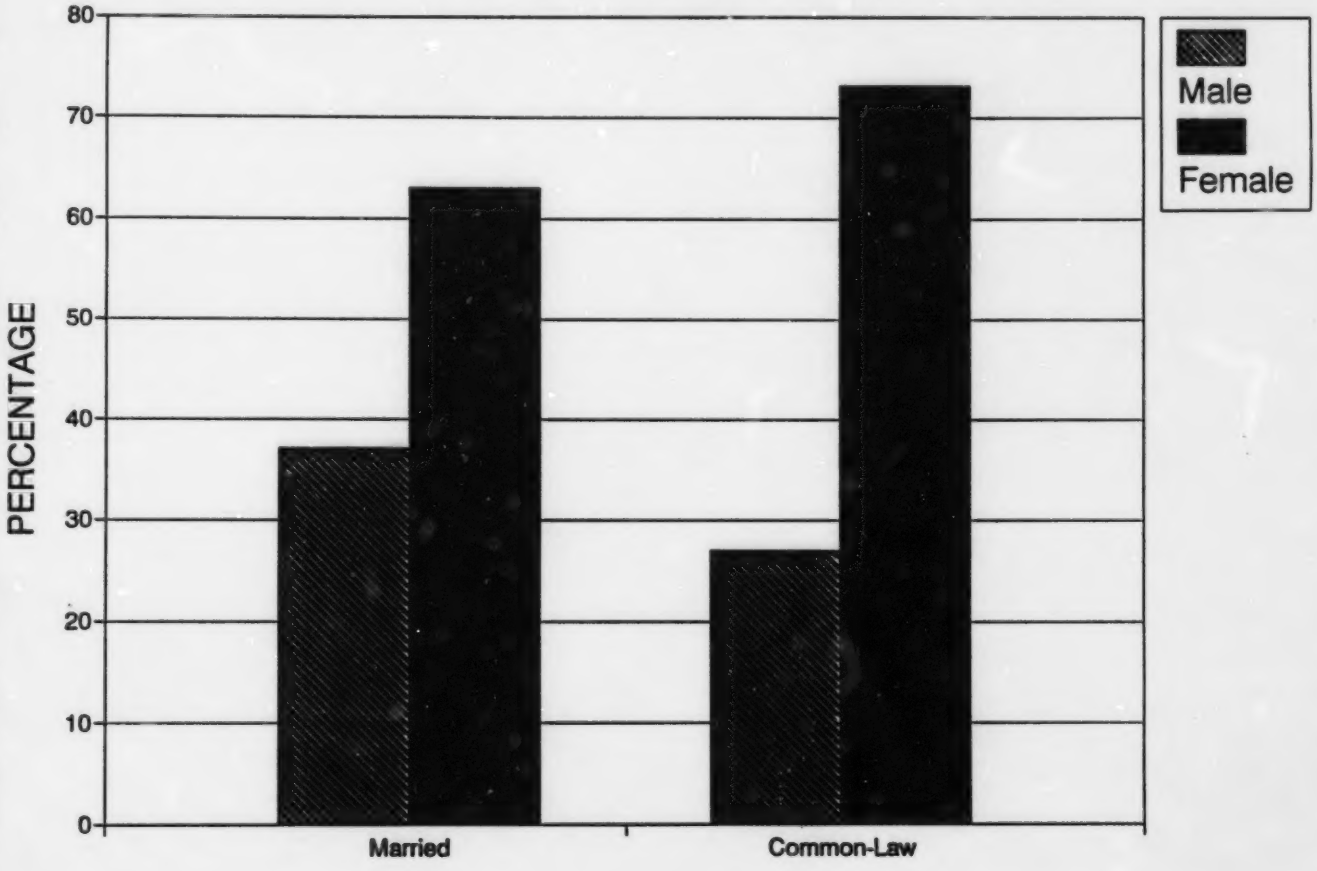


Figure 3 - Social Services Are Able to Meet Demand
(Survey Question 1.4)

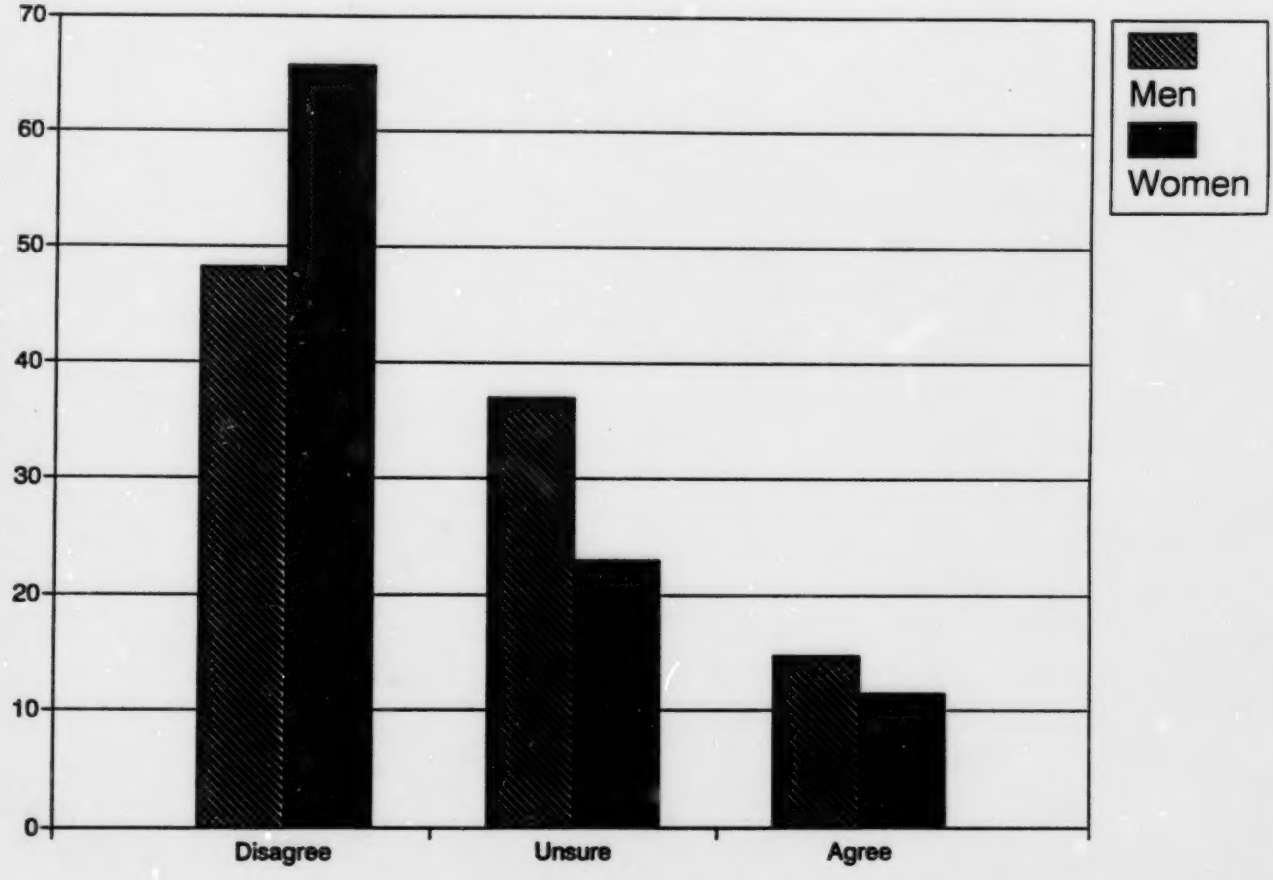
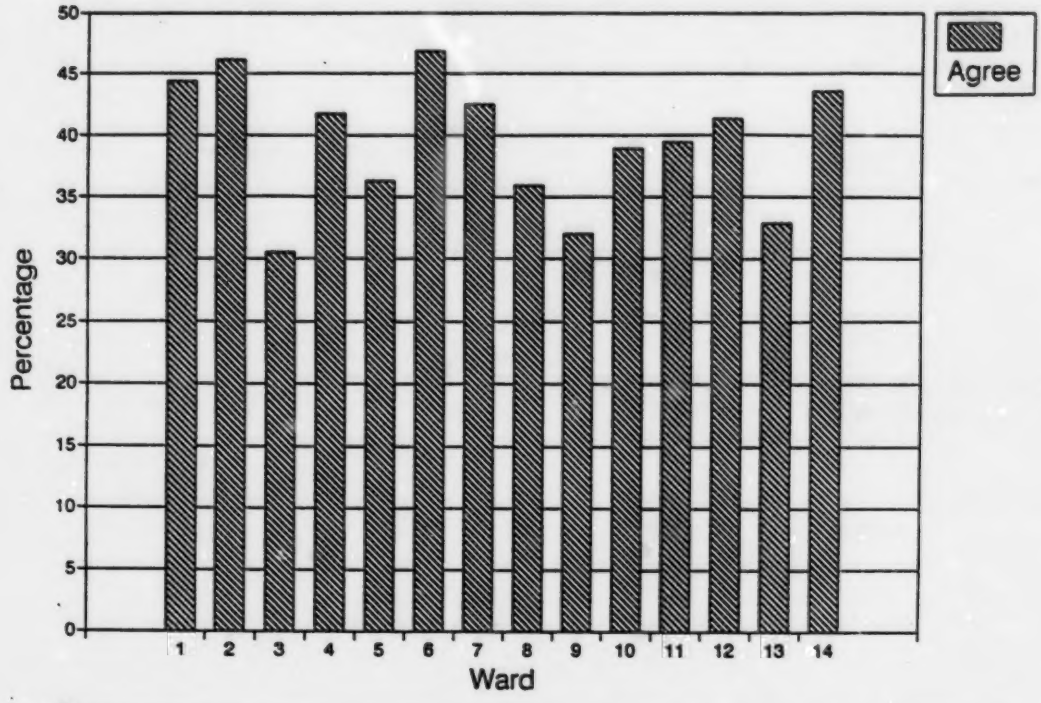


Figure 2 - City Officials Take My Concerns About Violence Seriously
(Question 1.3)



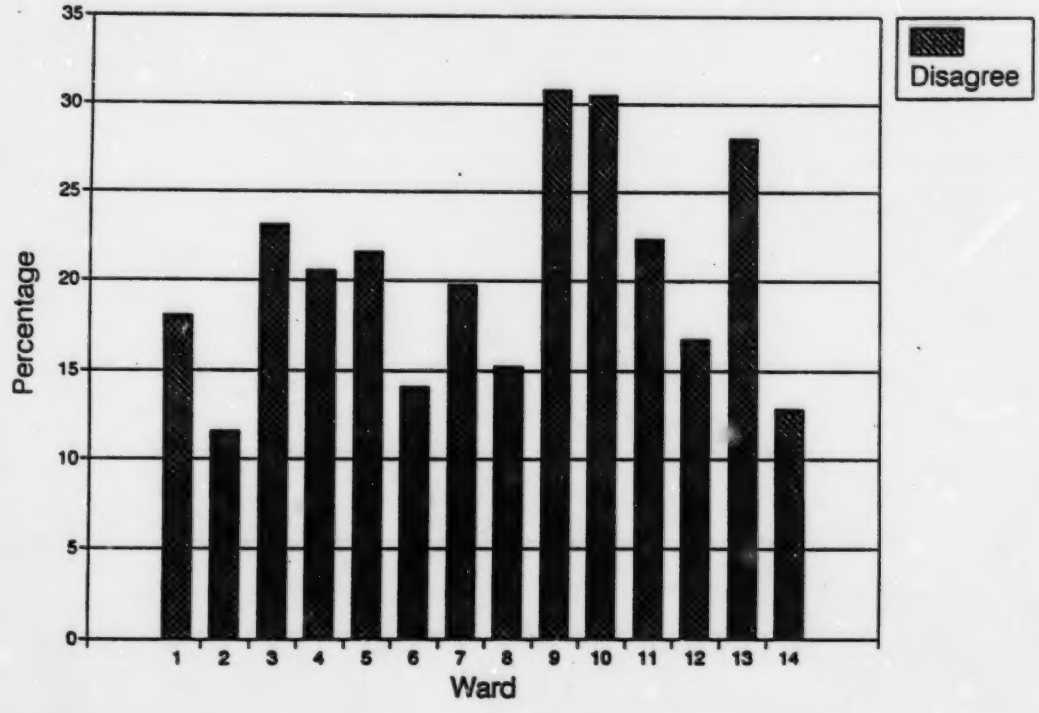
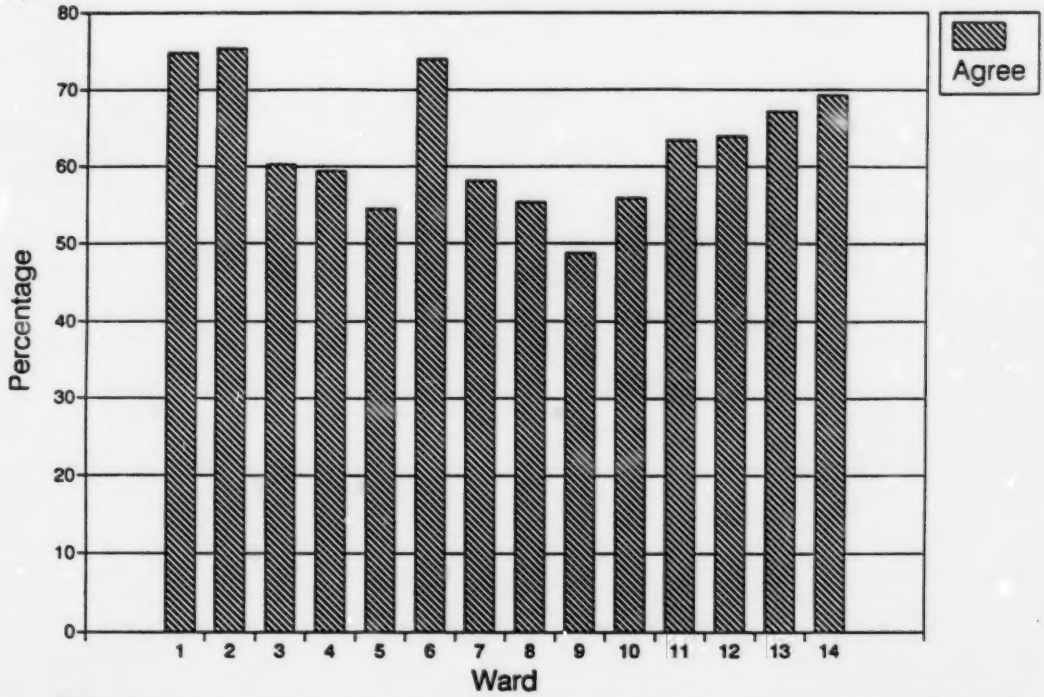


Figure 4 - There is Adequate Lighting in My Neighbourhood
(Question 1.8)



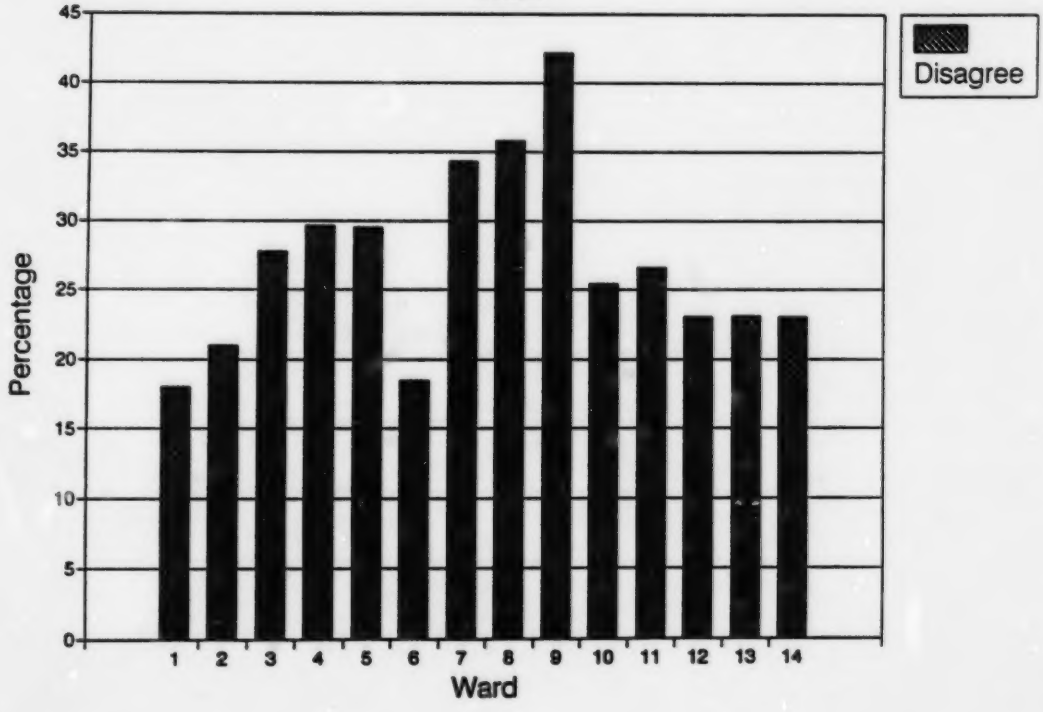
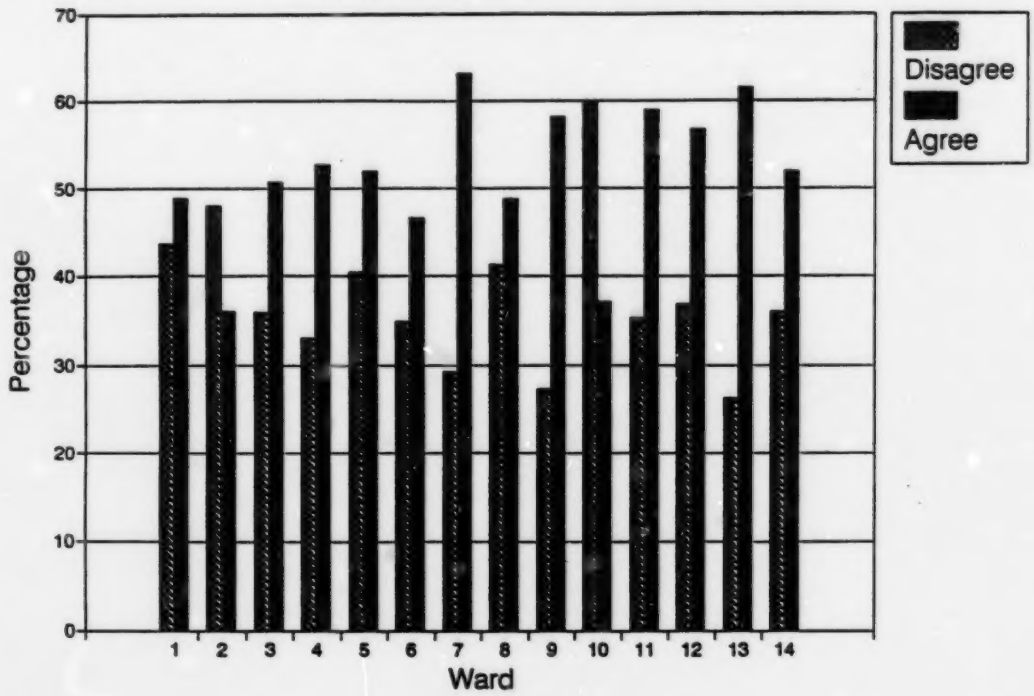


Figure 5 - I Impose Restrictions on My Life Due to Fear of Violence
(Survey Question 1.12 - Women)



(Survey Question 1.12 - Men)

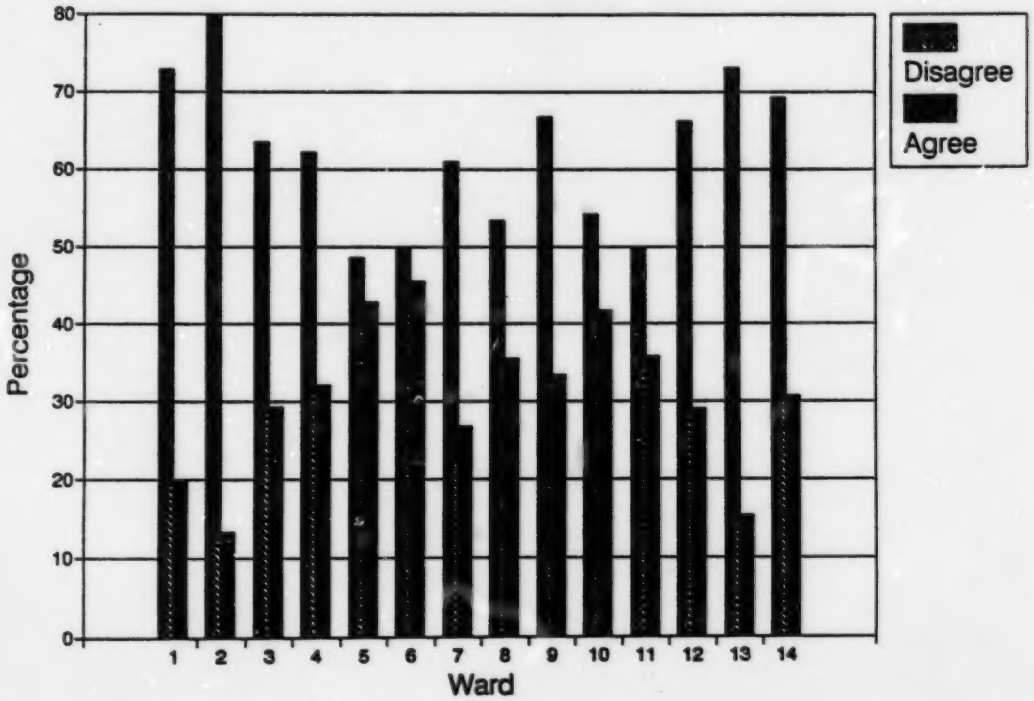
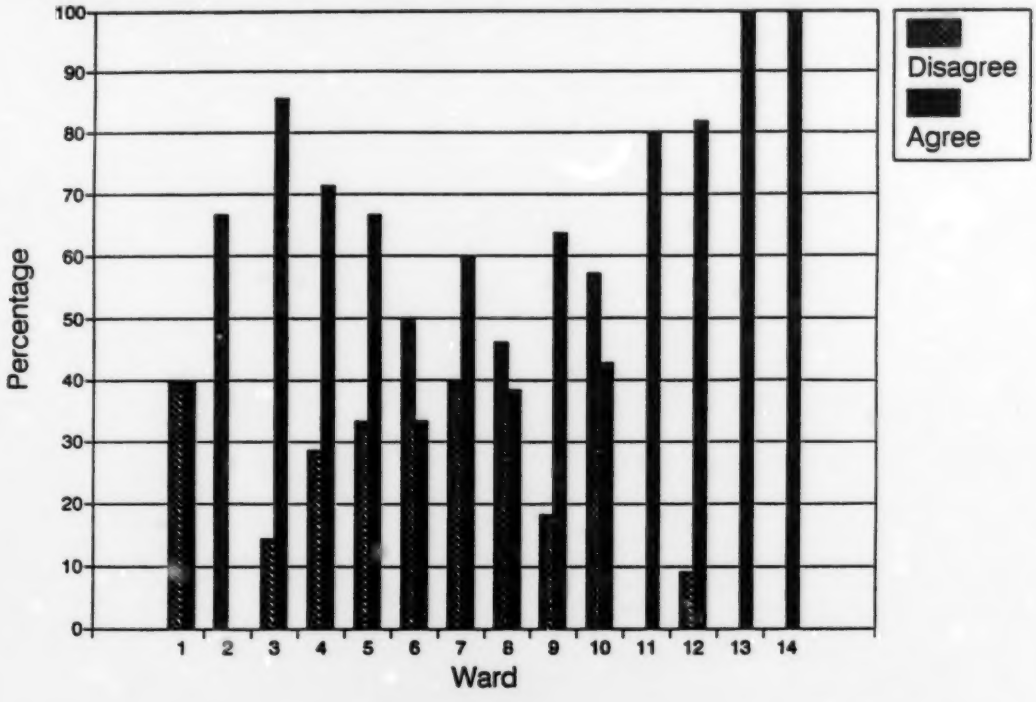


Figure 6 - I Impose Restrictions on My Life Due to Fear of Violence
(Survey Question 1.12 - Women Experiencing Violence in the Last 12 Months)



(Survey Question 1.12 - Men Experiencing Violence in Last 12 Months)

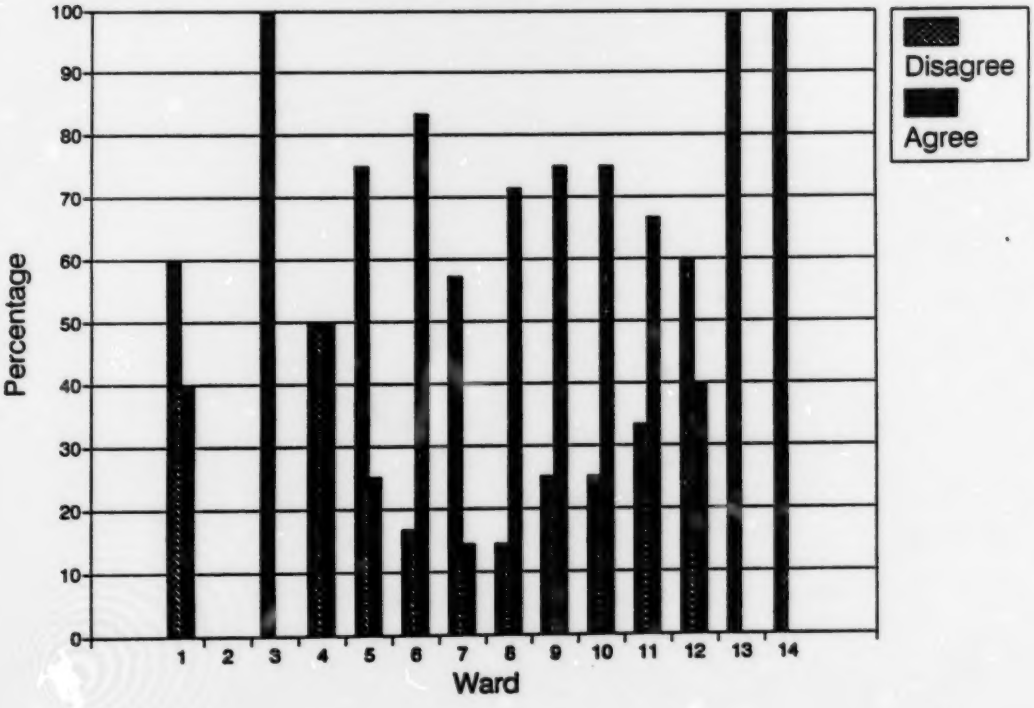


Figure 7 - Amount and Change in Neighbourhood Violence
(Survey Questions 2.1 & 2.2)

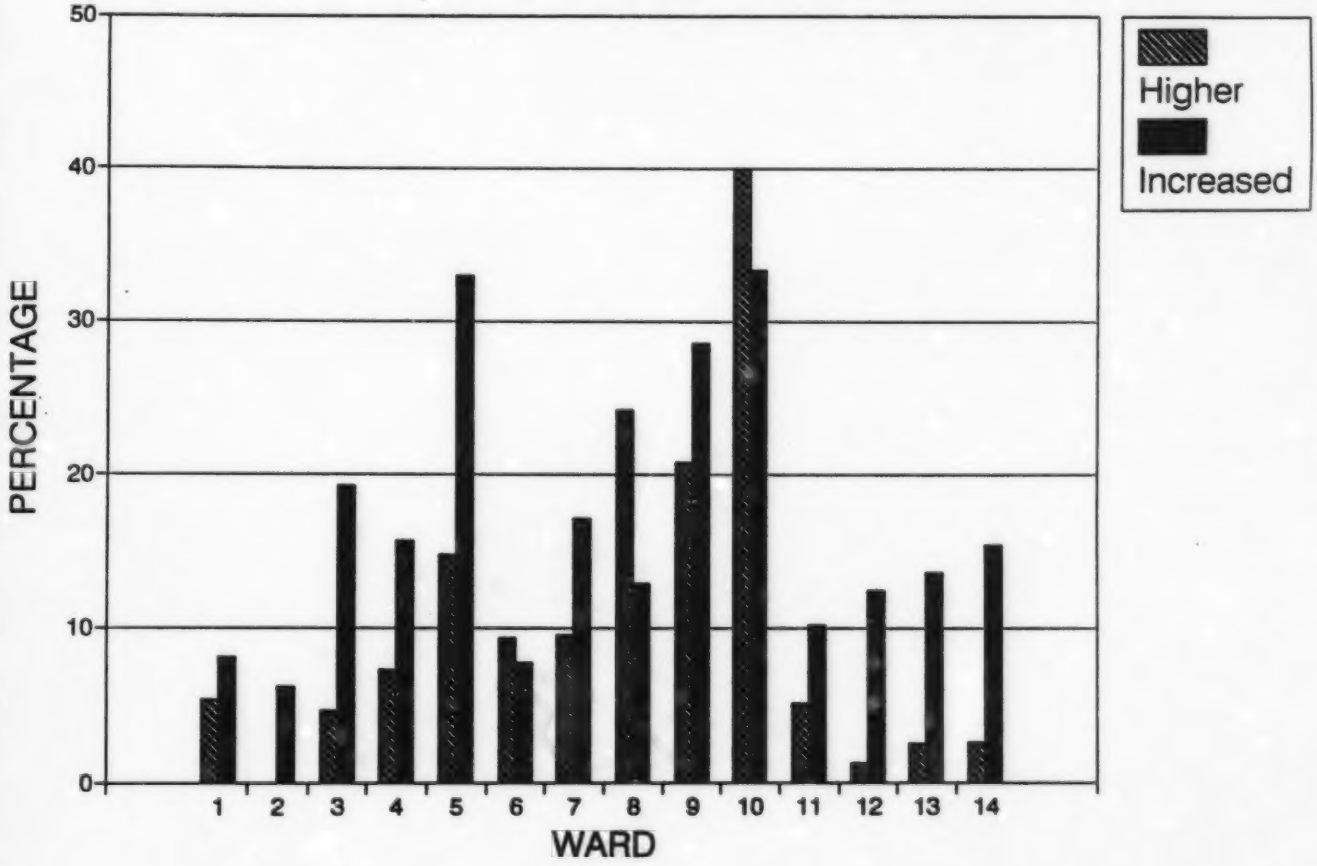
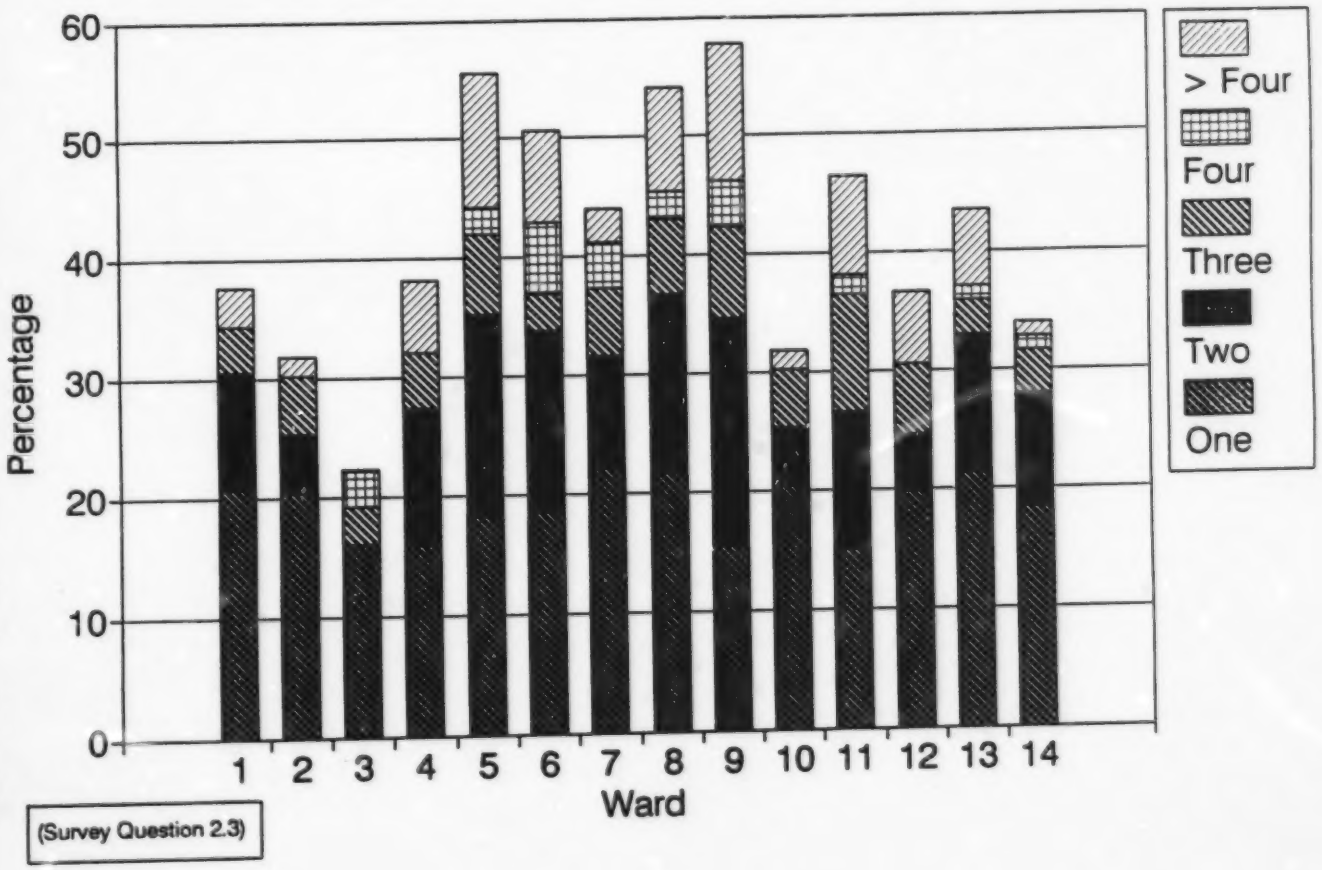


Figure 8 - Experience of Violence By Ward

Number of People Known in Last 12 Months



(Survey Question 2.3)

Figure 9 - Personal Experience of Violence in Last 12 Months
(Survey Question 2.4)

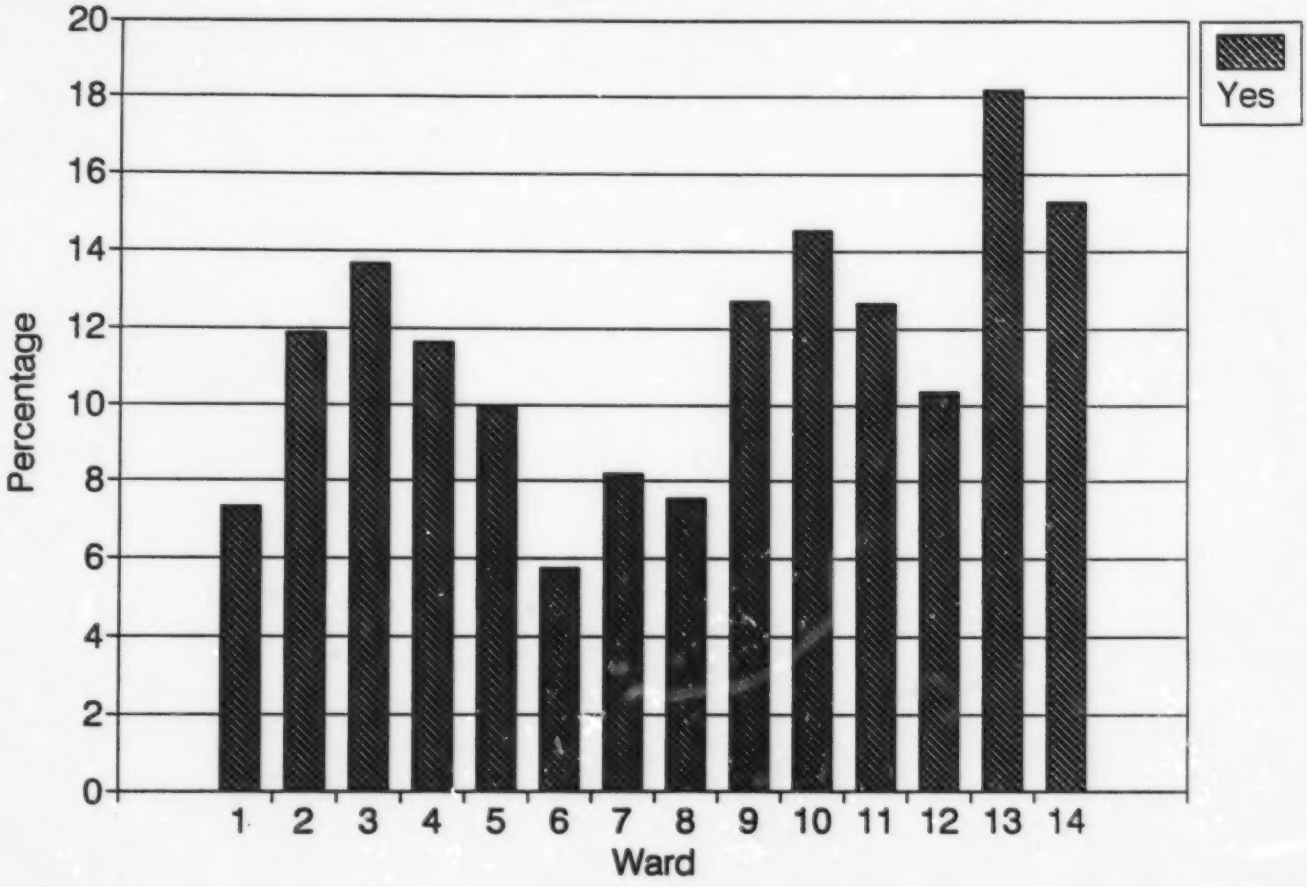


Figure 10 - I Impose Restrictions on My Life for Fear of Violence
(Survey Question 1.12 - By Gender)

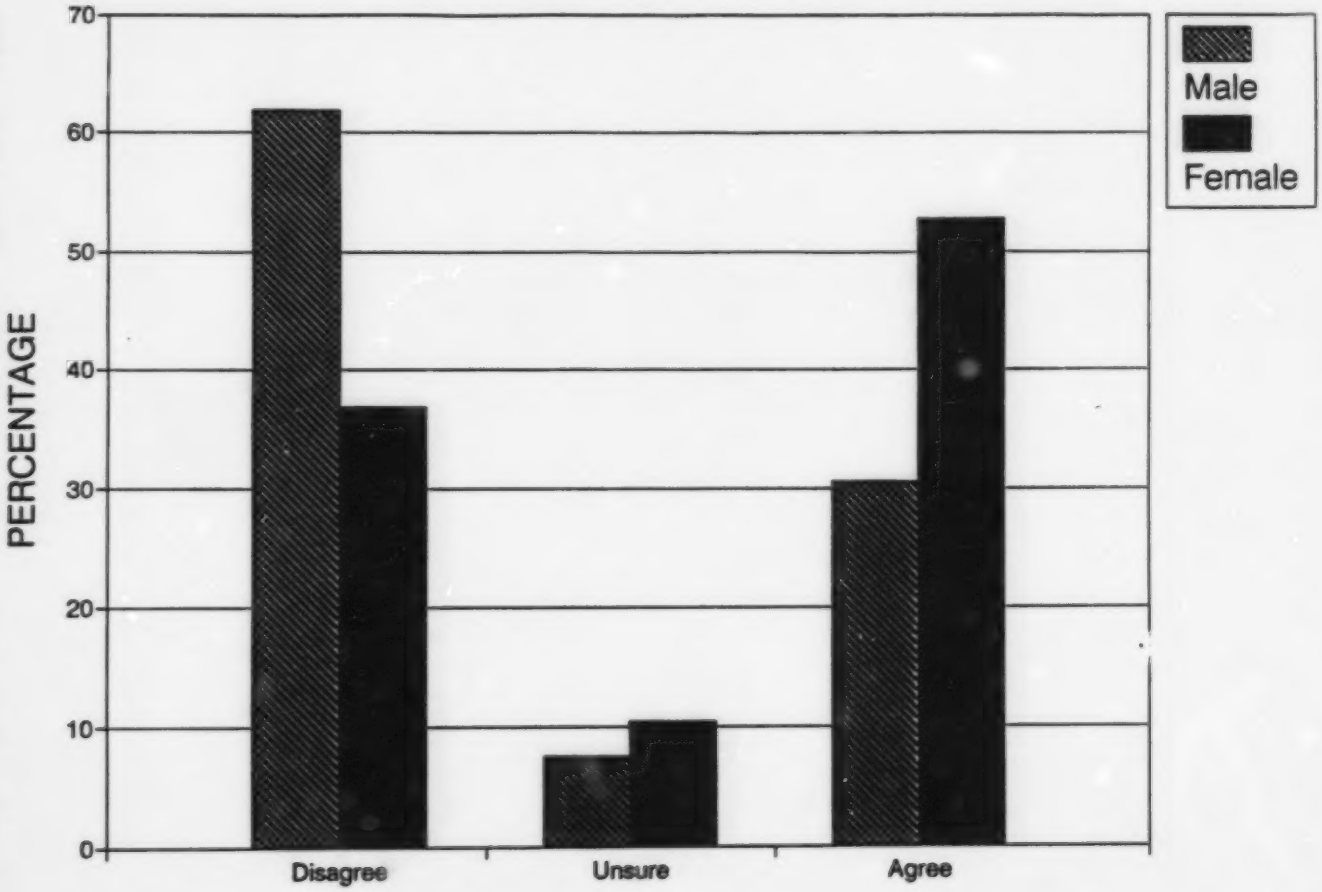


Figure 11 - I Impose Restrictions on My Life for Fear of Violence
(Question 1.12 - People Aged 65 or Over)

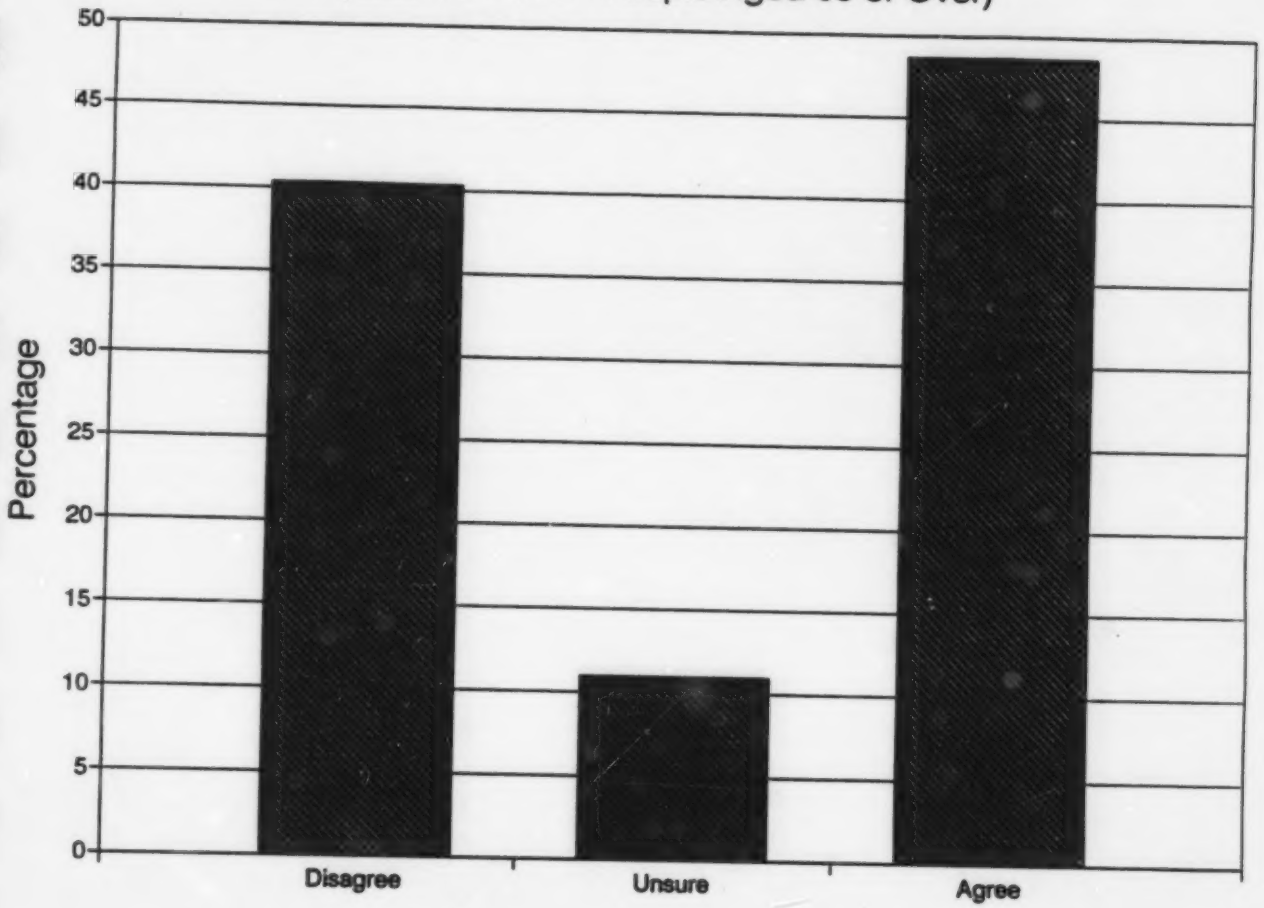
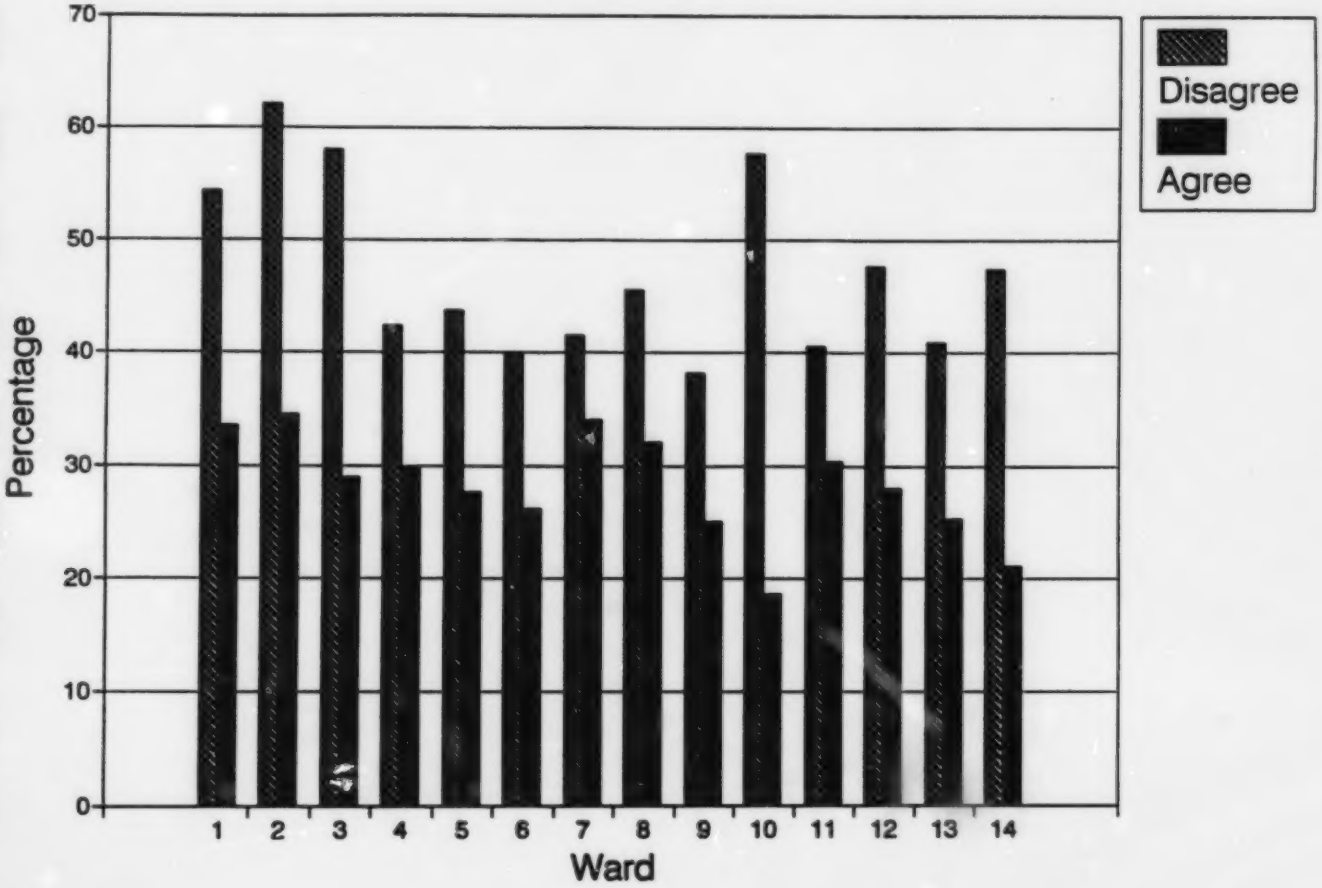


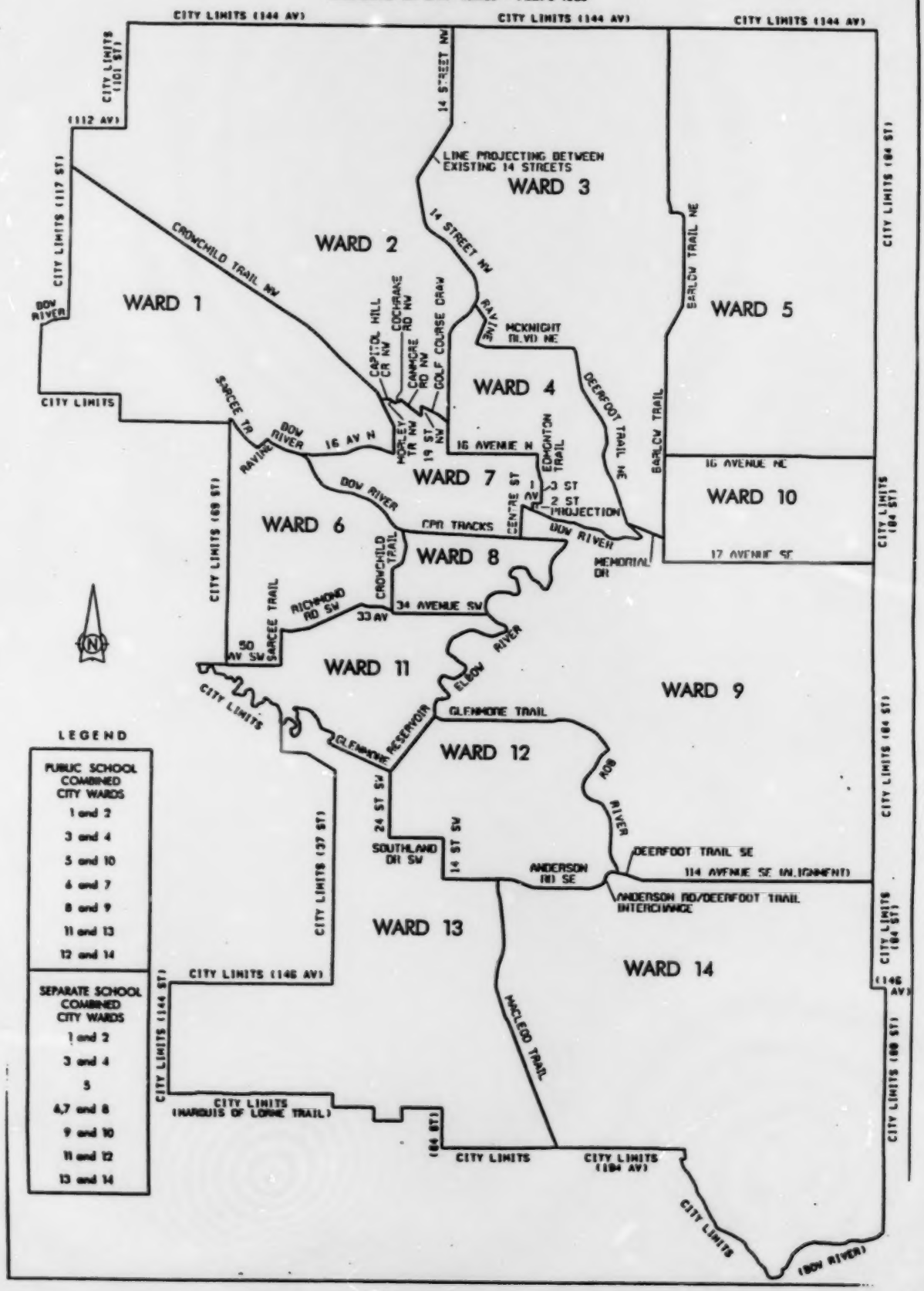
Figure 12 - I Impose Restrictions on My Life for Fear of Violence
(Question 1.12)



MAP SHOWING CITY WARD BOUNDARIES

(INCLUDING ANNEXATION)

BY-LAW 54M82 – JAN. 24 1983
AMENDING BY-LAW 10M89 – FEB. 6 1989



Section XVII: Summary of Recommendations

Section IV

Funding of Social Programs

Recommendation 1

The Mayor, with the support of City Council, convene a Province-wide conference, where the Provincial Government will be invited to be a major participant with funding agencies, to examine ways and means by which adequate funding can be made available for agencies providing needed services in the area of family and community violence.

Recommendation 2

The Province allocate more unconditional funding to the City so that local priorities can be determined by City Council.

Recommendation 3

The City of Calgary, upon receiving unconditional funding from the Province, adjust its priorities so that more funding is made available for agencies providing needed services in the area of family and community violence.

Section V

Coordination of Funding and Services

Recommendation 1
That Calgary City Council create an Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV).

Recommendation 2
City Council consider the following membership for the Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV):
One Alderman
One senior official from City Social Services
One senior official from the United Way
One senior official from the Burns Foundation
One senior official from the City Police Service
One senior official from the Interdepartmental Committee on Family Violence of the Provincial Government Department
One senior representative from the Calgary Area Hospital Advisory Council
One representative from a women's action group
One representative involved with an organization engaged in front line work with women experiencing violence
One representative involved in violence-related programs with youth
One representative involved with an organization engaged in working with minority women
One representative working with an organization serving the aboriginal community
A judge of the Provincial Family Court
Two Calgary citizens at large who will reflect the views of the survivors of violence

Section VI

Wife Abuse

Recommendation 1
The supply of emergency shelter spaces be increased to meet the present demand.

Recommendation 2
The Provincial Government simplify the procedure for accessing public assistance.

Recommendation 3
Shelter out reach services be provided to abused women and their families.

Recommendation 4
Broad-based counselling agencies in the City of Calgary include questions on their intake forms regarding all forms of abuse in the family.

Section VII

Child Abuse

Recommendation 1
The Action Committee Against Violence (ACAV) establish a work team to identify and develop, on an on going basis, ways and means to improve and coordinate services for abused children and their families.

Recommendation 2
Child Welfare services in Calgary be expanded so that an immediate response can be made to reports of children deemed to be at risk. Criteria for entry into the system must be expanded to allow for preventive and support services to be provided to families.

Recommendation 3
The feasibility of establishing another crisis nursery in the eastern part of the city be determined.

Recommendation 4
Standards be established with respect to protocols and time frames for the investigation of complaints of child sexual abuse victimization.

Recommendation 5
Children who are required to testify in Family or Criminal Court receive special assistance.

Recommendation 6
Specialized treatment services for "children of domestic violence" be funded in Calgary.

Recommendation 7
Restraining orders against abusers clearly specify access conditions.

Section VIII

Youth and Violence

Recommendation 1
ACAV establish a work team to coordinate programs and services for violent youth and their families.

Recommendation 2
Services and programs for immigrant, refugee, and ethnic minority youth be developed that are culturally sensitive and supportive, and which include the involvement of members of ethnic minority communities.

Recommendation 3
Programs and services for urban native youth should be culturally sensitive, and operated by native service-providers.

Recommendation 4
Social workers be hired for high needs schools to identify and work with youth at risk.

Recommendation 5
The two Calgary School Boards, in conjunction with appropriate community service-providers, develop programs to reduce the school dropout rate of adolescent students.

Recommendation 6
The J.I.M.Y. program, Alberta Family and Social Services be expanded, and continue to contract out services to address the needs of 16 and 17 year olds in Calgary whose needs are not being met.

Recommendation 7
The work team established under Recommendation 1 of this section should address the needs of late adolescents and young adults who are still vulnerable.

Recommendation 8
Services for adolescent parents be expanded, as youthfulness of a parent is a risk factor in child abuse situations.

Recommendation 9
Residential and out reach services to adolescents who live on the streets be expanded and better coordinated.

Recommendation 10
All first-time adolescent offenders who are involved in violent behaviour undergo a thorough assessment and have intensive services supplied to them.

Section IX

Elder Abuse

Recommendation 1
ACAV undertake studies to examine, on an on going basis, the extent of elder abuse in the city.

Recommendation 2
City Council consider ways and means by which the Kerby Centre and other agencies could receive additional resources to enhance their staff to deal with this growing problem of elder abuse.

Recommendation 3
ACAV undertake further programs, in cooperation with the Kerby Centre and other agencies to form a network of assistance to the abused elderly. To date, this has been unavailable.

Section X

Immigrant Women: A Case of Double Jeopardy

Recommendation 1
The City of Calgary urge the Government of Canada, in cooperation with other levels of government to provide resources for preventive programs such as educational workshops, support groups, and out reach support as part of the initial settlement/adaptation services provided to newly arrived immigrants.

Recommendation 2
ACAV undertake a public awareness campaign to be provided within the city's ethnic communities to disseminate information in a variety of languages on the availability of services that could be of assistance.

Recommendation 3
Wherever possible, programs offered to immigrant women be community-based to make them more accessible, and that such programs be designed to address the different needs of ethnic groups.

Recommendation 4
Existing mainstream services helping abused women must be adapted to meet the needs of ethnically diverse women.

Section XI

Urban Design and Safety

Recommendation 1
ACAV) identify and develop ways and means to make Calgary a safer community for its citizens, particularly women, children,and elderly.

Recommendation 2
The Urban Safety work team assist community associations to conduct safety audits in their neighbourhoods.

Recommendation 3
The City of Calgary Planning and Building Department conduct a safety audit relating specifically to the downtown core, and recommend steps that can be taken to overcome the fact and the perception the downtown core of the City of Calgary is unsafe.

Recommendation 4
Calgary Transit designate one planner, preferably female, to review all plans for renovations and future construction on the transit system, considering the safety of women and children a priority.

Recommendation 5
The City of Calgary distribute safety audit guidebooks to all communities and interested organizations that identify areas of danger to vulnerable members of the community and recommend steps that can be taken to deal with dangerous locations.

Recommendation 6
Calgary Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with the Alberta Status of Women Action Committee, continue and expand their program of self-defence training for women.

Section XII

Prevention Through Education and Programs

Recommendation 1
ACAV establish a Domestic Violence Work Team to assist in the development of a family violence prevention and education media campaign.

Recommendation 2
ACAV take steps to provide a hotline service for victims of family violence.

Recommendation 3
Our School Boards create policy directives to the schools to ensure issues relating to family violence are identified and dealt with, and that existing curriculum on family violence for all levels of students in the system be expanded and become mandatory in all schools.

Recommendation 4
ACAV encourage the media to publicize local treatment and service programs more extensively, and provide the general public with information of an educational nature in matters relating to violence.

Recommendation 5
Professional training be developed in matters relating to family violence for medical doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, teachers, lawyers, judges, and the clergy.

Section XIII

The Justice System

Police Response

Recommendation 1
Calgary Police Service Policy design and publish police procedures that establish family violence as a priority response. The Calgary Police Commission should be involved in this process.

Recommendation 2
The expanded policy and procedures contain the following requirements:

a) Treatment of all complaints of family violence as reported criminal offences.

b) Interviewing the parties separately so the victim will not be intimidated by the presence of the assailant.

c) Laying assault charges when reasonable and probable grounds exist on the basis of the complaint to do so.

d) Clear documentation in incident reports of reasons for not laying assault charges.

e) Use of resources in the ethnic minority communities in combination with criminal justice responses when the families are of an ethnic minority.

f) Instructions to the victim on where and how to write a Victim Impact Statement.

g) Completion of a written report documenting observed behaviour and physical injuries of both parties (this could be facilitated by using a check list format).

h) Providing the victim and assailant two cards, one containing current, local services for victims and abusers, and the other containing the officer's name, badge number, report number and follow-up telephone number.

i) Arrangement of transportation for the victim and her children to a shelter, friend's home, medical facilities, or other services as required.

j) Removal of the assailant to the local police station to lay the assault charge (many survivors of wife assault and child sexual abuse asked us why they had to vacate the family home when they had not been accused of committing a crime, while the assailant was free to remain in the comfort of familiar surroundings).

k) Removal of dangerous weapons for a reasonable period, rather than turning them over to the victim for safe-keeping.

l) If the attendance is for the violation of a restraining order, verification of the existence of the restraining order and treatment of the violation as a criminal offence (legislative change will be required for breaches of restraining orders to be treated as criminal).

Recommendation 3

Police officers be required to file written reports on all domestic disputes, even if when they do not have reasonable and probable grounds to lay assault charges.

Recommendation 4
Calgary Police Services continue to maintain a current file of all restraining orders in the city, and respond without delay to calls involving violations of restraining orders.

Recommendation 5
Forms for obtaining restraining orders should be available at all police stations, and a procedure established so victims can access a restraining order 24 hours a day. The format should be standardized with the safety concerns of the victim being paramount, i.e. the victim's address should not appear on a restraining order if she and her children are hiding from the assailant.

Recommendation 6
The Calgary Police Crisis Branch, the Victims' Assistance Unit, and Multicultural and Native Liaison Units be used more extensively in family violence cases.

The Justice System

Prosecution and Judicial Response

Recommendation 1
Designated prosecutors be used to process family violence cases.

Recommendation 2
The Office of the Crown Prosecutor take a leadership role in ensuring that Calgary develops a court advocacy program for battered women.

Recommendation 3
Judges establish guide lines for the expeditious handling of family violence cases, for more appropriate sentencing of offenders, and that continuing education programs for judges include materials and workshops on gender bias issues.

Recommendation 4
Judges examine sentencing alternatives that include court-mandated treatment for offenders.

Section XIV

Commercialization of Violence Against Women and Children

Recommendation 1
Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring opaque barriers to be placed over the public display of so-called "sexual" or "male entertainment" magazines.

Recommendation 2
Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring complete separation of sexually-explicit "adult" videos from the general stock of all video stores throughout Calgary.

Recommendation 3
Calgary City Council adopt a by-law requiring the visible and public display of store policies regarding purchase and/or rental age requirements and acceptability ratings for sexually-explicit "adult" videos available for rental and purchase.

Recommendation 4
Calgary City Council urge the Provincial Government to pass legislation making store owners responsible for determining the age of persons seeking to rent or purchase sexually explicit "adult" videos, and the minimum age should be 18 years.

Recommendation 5
Calgary City Council urge the Provincial Government to establish a Film and Video Classification Board, like the one in British Columbia, to monitor and regulate the sexually-explicit "adult" videos available for rental and purchase in Alberta.

Section XV

Male-Related Issues

Recommendation 1
City Council approach the Provincial Government as a matter of urgency, to provide funding in order to reinstate the program terminated at the General Hospital in Calgary that provided treatment and services to men who batter their wives.

Recommendation 2
ACAV examine, on an on going basis, ways and means by which facilities and services can be extended to assist men who batter.

Recommendation 3
Alberta Mental Health should be encouraged, as a pilot project, to train therapists to work with male survivors of childhood sexual abuse in order that programs for this sector of our population could be commenced and built upon at the earliest possible date.

Appendix A: Informal Focus Meetings

July 10, 1990*

Name	Organization
Tudor Beattie	Crown Prosecutor's Office
Bob Brown	Calgary General Hospital (Program for Men Who Batter)
Rita Cattell	Riverview United Church
Beth Hughes	Crown Prosecutor's Office
Annette McCullough	Kerby Centre
Jack Mullins	Calgary Police Service
Valerie Naslund	Alberta Family & Social Services (Child Welfare)
Loralee Plomp	Calgary Police Service (Crisis Branch)
Karen Walroth	Solicitor General (Community Corrections)
Dave Wellings	Alberta Family & Social Services

*All participants appearing before the Task Force on July 10, 1990 are members of the Calgary Region Domestic Violence Committee.

July 11, 1990

Name	Organization
Magdalene Amestica	Child Focus Services
Ada Baxter	Calgary Sexual Assault Centre
Barb Bourque	YWCA, Sheriff King Home
Fred Burns	Distress Centre
Melanie Johannson	Children of Domestic Violence
Naida Maher	YWCA, Sheriff King Home
Ann McFaul	Pastoral Institute - Anger Management Program
Mary Morin	YWCA, Sheriff King Home
Janet Wagar	YWCA, Support Centre

July 12, 1990

Name	Organization
Sarah Bhola	Calgary Coalition on Family Violence
Hap Davis	Calgary Family Service Bureau
Mutriba Din	Calgary Status of Women Action Committee
Mandy Latiff	Alberta Family & Social Services Emergency Social Services
Pat Lawrence	Women Plus
Herman Vanderburg	Sonshine Centre

July 17, 1990

Name	Organization
Robbie Babins-Wagner	Rockyview General Hospital Social Work Department
Ann Byrne	The Childen's Cottage
Doris Chabot	Catholic Family Service
Terry Creighton	Providence Child Development Centre
Susan Gardner	Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter
Martha McManus	Conflict Resolution Consultant
John Pearce	Alberta Children's Hospital Child Abuse Program
Alix B. Ryane	Salvation Army Children's Village

Informal Focus Meetings

July 24, 1990

Name	Organization
Joan Bever	Parent Support Association
Beverly Clendinning	Pineridge Community Project
Carl Deline	The Back Door
Laurette Doiron	Youville Women's Residence
Adele Hunter	Junior League of Calgary
Joy Long	Junior League - YWCA Family Violence Education Program
Madelyn McDonald	Avenue 15, Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary
Elaine McMurray	Parent Support Association
Paddy Meade	Calgary Young Offender Centre
Theresa Sheehan	Alberta Health, Mental Health Services
Bob Shepherd	Psychologist in Private Practice

July 25, 1990

Name	Organization
Bill Gordon	Cambyr Agencies
Inger Howse	Calgary Association for Young Immigrants
Lawrence MacLean	Cambyr Agencies
Bill Meade	Mountain Plains Community Services
Kim Pate	Calgary John Howard Society
Arnie Slive	Woods Homes Treatment Resources
Frank Vorstermans	Strathmore Youth Development Centre

Informal Focus Meetings

July 30, 1990

Name	Organization
Jeanne Besner	Calgary Health Services
Heather Davies	Calgary YWCA
Marcia Davies	Calgary YWCA
Sandra Falconi	Calgary YWCA
Janet Hutchison	Calgary YWCA
Glen Marcotte	Aids Calgary
Elizabeth Miles	Grace Hospital Women's Centre
Annette Ruitenbach	Alberta Coalition Against Pornography
Yvonne Stanford	Calgary YWCA

August 8, 1990

Name	Organization
Rick Austin	Calgary Police Service Youth Involvement & SHOP Unit
Shelley Heartwell	McMan Youth Services
Esther Lau	Calgary Immigrant Women's Centre
Norma Peters	Discovery House
Lionel Simpson	Calgary Police Service Youth Involvement & SHOP Unit
Brad Symington	Calgary Polic Service Youth Involvement & SHOP Unit
Debbie Stevens	16 & 17 Year Old Program (J.I.M.Y.)

Informal Focus Meetings

August 14, 1990

Name	Organization
Susan DeWitt	City of Calgary Social Services Department
Olga Dobrowney	Legal Aid Society of Alberta
Swati Edison	Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
Kurt Hanson	City of Calgary Social Services Department
Ruth Hartley	Riverside Villa Association
Lucy Hutchings	City of Calgary Social Services Department
Edna Sutherland	Calgary Catholic Immigration Society

August 16, 1990

Name	Organization
Doug Elliston	Calgary Police Service Victim Assistance Unit
Audrey Ferrier	Elizabeth Fry Society
Joan Francis	Government of Alberta Children's Advocate Office
Marion Gauzer	Parents Anonymous
Barb Innes	Elizabeth Fry Society
Hadassah Ksienski	Aunts-at-Large
Mary Lawrence	Parent Aide Program

Informal Focus Meetings

August 27, 1990

Name	Organization
Jim Allison	Calgary Integrated Services
Janet Brennan	Calgary Integrated Services
Billy Joseph	Native Counselling Services
Hope Kahane	Jewish Family Services
Hopeton Louden	TCS Solution Sets Inc.
Marie Morin	Native Counselling Services of Alberta
Michelle Plaxten	Alberta Family and Social Services - Handicapped Children's Services
Jim Pritchard	Alberta Family and Social Services - Children & Family Program Services
Jordan Rice	Canadian Forces Base - Area Social Work Office
Syd Sutherland	Calgary Police Service - Multicultural Liaison Unit
Celine Thompson	Canadian Forces Base - Family Support Centre
John Young	Calgary Police Service - Native Liaison Unit

August 29, 1990

Name	Organization
Suzanne Cabel	Alberta Vocational Centre
Gerry Kemp	Calgary Immigrant Aid Society
Gloria Manitopyes	City of Calgary - Native Liaison Unit
Anne McGrath	National Action Committee on the Status of Women
Aleigh Porte	Janus Associates
Viviana Reinberg	Calgary Immigrant Aid Society
Loralee Waterchief	Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee

Appendix B: Themes From 12 Focus Meetings

Professionals expressed the need for:

Prevention of violence through education of public, professionals and school children.

Improvements in criminal justice response to violence, including police response.

Adequate Provincial funding for Child Welfare Services.

Need for service coordination and planning.

Cross-cultural training to ensure adequate services for Calgarians from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Community development and involvement.

Group program(s) for men who batter.

Broad-based coordinated services for adolescents.

It was also stressed that:

Severity and complexity of consumers' needs are increasing.

Short-term, single issue treatment cannot meet the needs of people experiencing violence in their lives.

Appendix C: Presenters At Public Hearings

Monday, October 15	Sol Da Cruz Alberta Children's Hospital, Child Abuse Team Pat Dougan and Dr. John Pearce Jimmy Carlton Dr. Lee Handy, University Couselling Services
Tuesday, October 16	Brenda Chute Harry Zuurbier, Mediator Discovery House, Norma Peters Wilma Rubens, Conflict Resolution Trainer
Wednesday, October 17	Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, Susan Gardner Dr. John Wu, Pediatrician Dr. Irmgard Thiessen, Custody & Access Debbie Morais, Eileen Teslenko Calgary Family Service Bureau, Dr. Hap Davis Kathy Repp Janet Reid
Monday, October 22	Youth Alternatives McMann Youth Services, Darlene Petrie John Howard Society, Kim Pate Distress Centre, Jeanette McEachern Beverley Clendinning, Martha McManus and Joy Long United Way, Frank Johnson, Dr. Ed Johnson Connaught Community School, Nelly Luy and Lorilee Chomik Shared Parenting, Darwin Risdon Earl Silverman

Tuesday, October 23	Sherwood Community School Interagency Committee, Rose Smeaton Red Cross, Pam Greer Sandy Harper-Jaques and Linda Dziuba Family Life Education Council, Sonia Eisler Parent Aide, Carol Johnson Kerby Centre, Annette McCullough Roman Catholic Diocese, Family Resource Centre, Bill and Linda Britton Calgary Pro-life Association, Lynda Turner
Wednesday, October 24	Calgary Separate Board of Education, Shirley Valentine and Dr. John McCarthy Calgary Status of Women Action Committee, Lisa Jensen and Mutriba Din Calgary Coalition on Family Violence, Sarah Bhola YWCA, Sherriff King Home, Naida Maher YWCA, Support Centre, Janet Wagar Observation Nursery Calgary Sexual Assault Centre, Ada Baxter Boys & Girls Club of Calgary, Myrna Lynder and Cheryl Doherty City Social Services, Kurt Hanson, Susan DeWitt, Sam Blakely Children's Cottage, Ann Byrne and Dr. Sandra Reilly Dr. Arleigh Porte Centre for Income Security and Employment Association, Clive Mallory, Fred Robertson and Beverly Ternieden
Thursday, October 25	Alberta Coalition vs. Pornography & Media Watch Bruce Thomas Diane Olmstead Roxanne Landers Calgary Health Services, Dr. Brent Friesen and Jeanne Besner Psychology Association of Alberta, Women in Psychology, Vivian Lalonde Parent Support Association, Joan Bever and Elaine McMurray Margaret Godsman

	Woods Homes, Dr. Arnie Slive Parents Anonymous, Marion Gauzer, Dana Ormstrup, Brad Wright Natural Family Planning
Thursday, October 25	Student Mediators Program, St. Peter's Elementary School Calgary Immigrant Aid, Gerry Kemp Calgary Region Domestic Violence Committee Cambyr Agency, Mark Wiencke Elizabeth Fry Society, Audrey Ferrier Calgary Catholic Immigrant Aid, Anne Wilson Stephanie Griffin, student at the Alternative High School Pastoral Institute, Ann Davidson Barry Pashak, MLA for Calgary Forest Lawn

APPENDIX D

SURVEY FOR THE MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

For this survey acts of violence mean:

a) being pushed, grabbed, slapped, punched, kicked, beaten up, attacked with a weapon
b) being threatened with any of the behaviors in a)
c) being coerced, threatened or forced to engage in unwanted sexual activity.

SECTION I In this section we are interested in your perception of Calgary as a community. Please circle the number which represents how strongly you feel about the statements that follow.

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Undecided
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

		Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
1.1	People will come to my aid if I am violently attacked in Calgary.	1	2	3	4	5
1.2	The way that the Calgary media reports local violent incidents, increases fear of violence.	1	2	3	4	5
1.3	City officials take my concerns about violence seriously.	1	2	3	4	5
1.4	Social service agencies that work in the area of community and family violence are able to meet the requests for their services.	1	2	3	4	5
1.5	Adequate information on community and family violence is available to Calgarians.	1	2	3	4	5
1.6	Calgarians need to know self-defense strategies.	1	2	3	4	5
1.7	Non-violent forms of interaction should be taught in Calgary schools.	1	2	3	4	5
1.8	There is adequate lighting in public places in my neighbourhood.	1	2	3	4	5
1.9	I would be willing to invest time in helping those people in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.	1	2	3	4	5
1.10	I would be willing to have my taxes increased to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.	1	2	3	4	5
1.11	I would be willing to donate from my after-taxes income to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.	1	2	3	4	5
1.12	I impose restrictions on my life due to fear of violence.	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION II In this section of the questionnaire we would like to ask your opinions on the scope of violence in Calgary.

2.1 Compared to other areas in Calgary, do you think your neighbourhood has a higher amount of violence, about the same or a lower amount of violence? (Circle one number below.)

1. Higher
2. About the same
3. Lower
4. Don't know

2.2 In the past twelve months, do you think that violence in your neighbourhood has: (Circle one number below.)

1. Increased
2. Decreased
3. Remained about the same
4. Don't know

2.3 How many people do you know personally in Calgary who have experienced a violent incident in the past twelve months? (Circle one number below.)

1. Zero
2. One
3. Two
4. Three
5. Four
6. More than four

2.4 In the past 12 months have you personally experienced a violent incident? (Circle one number below.).

1. Yes
2. No

2.5 If yes, did the incident occur: (Circle one number below)

1. in a public place
2. in your home
3. other, please specify _____

SECTION III In this question we would like to learn about how safe you feel alone in public places in Calgary after dark. . . (Circle one number per item below.).

3.1

	Very Safe	Reasonably Safe	Somewhat Unsafe	Very Unsafe	Not Applic.	Don't Know
a) walking in your neighbourhood	1	2	3	4	5	6
b) riding a bus	1	2	3	4	5	6
c) waiting in a bus shelter	1	2	3	4	5	6
d) riding the LRT	1	2	3	4	5	6
e) waiting on the LRT platform	1	2	3	4	5	6
f) walking to your car in a parkade	1	2	3	4	5	6
g) walking to your car in an outdoor parking lot	1	2	3	4	5	6
h) driving your car	1	2	3	4	5	6
i) jogging	1	2	3	4	5	6
j) walking through underpasses	1	2	3	4	5	6
k) walking on campuses	1	2	3	4	5	6
l) using automatic banking machines	1	2	3	4	5	6

SECTION IV In this section we are interested in your opinions about the criminal justice response to violence in Calgary.

4.1 In dealing with violence against people, do you think your local police force does a good job, an average or a poor job in the following areas: (Circle one number per item below.).

	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know
a) Of promptly responding to calls	1	2	3	4
b) Of laying assault charges when there is reasonable & probable grounds to do so	1	2	3	4
c) Of being approachable and easy to talk to	1	2	3	4
d) Of supplying information to the public on services to reduce violence	1	2	3	4

4.2 In dealing with violent crimes, do you think the criminal court system is doing a good job, an average job or a poor job in the following areas: (Circle one number per item below.)

	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know
a) Of providing justice quickly	1	2	3	4
b) Of helping the victim	1	2	3	4
c) Of determining whether the accused is guilty or not	1	2	3	4
d) Of protecting the rights of the accused	1	2	3	4

4.3 In general, would you say that sentences handed down by the Court to those who have committed violent acts are: (Circle one number below.)

1. Too severe
2. About right
3. Not severe enough
4. Don't know

SECTION V In this section we would like to learn your opinion about the seriousness of various types of violence in Calgary.

5.1 What level of concern do you feel should be associated with the following types of violence? (Circle one number per item below.)

	No Concern	Minor Concern	Major Concern	Don't Know
a) Violence toward children	1	2	3	4
b) Violence in schools	1	2	3	4
c) Gang violence on the streets	1	2	3	4
d) Violence toward a spouse	1	2	3	4
e) Public violence toward women	1	2	3	4
f) Violence toward the elderly	1	2	3	4
g) Inter-racial violence	1	2	3	4
h) Other	1	2	3	4

SECTION VI In this section we are trying to learn if you, the Calgary resident, know about the resources that exist in Calgary to assist those who are experiencing violence in their lives.

6.1 If a friend, neighbour, or co-worker needed one of the following services to deal with violence in their lives, would you presently be able to supply them with the appropriate telephone number? (Circle one number per item below.)

	No	Yes
a) A shelter for battered women	1	2
b) A crisis nursery	1	2
c) A counselling service for sexual assault survivors	1	2
d) A crisis line for adults	1	2
e) A crisis line for children	1	2
f) A program to assist victims of crime	1	2
g) A program for men who batter their wives	1	2
h) A program for parents of violent adolescents	1	2
i) A program for abused seniors	1	2
j) Free legal counselling	1	2
k) A child welfare worker	1	2
l) A program for street youth	1	2

SECTION VII In this section of the questionnaire, we would like to ask a few questions about you for statistical purposes. We realize that this information may be personal, but please keep in mind that all the information you provide will be kept confidential and anonymous. Please answer the following questions.

7.1 Please indicate whether you are: (Circle one number below.)

1. Male
2. Female

7.2 What year were you born? (Place year on line below).

Year: _____

7.3 What is your present marital status? (Circle one number below.)

1. Married
2. Common-law
3. Widowed
4. Separated
5. Divorced
6. Single (never married)

7.4 What is the highest level of schooling that you have completed? (Circle one number below.)

1. Elementary school (grades 1 - 6)
2. Some Junior High School
3. Completed Junior High School (grade 9)
4. Some High School
5. Graduated High School (grade 12)
6. Vocational/Technical/College
7. Some University
8. Graduated University

7.5 Presently, which group does your family income fall into? (Circle one number below.)

1. Less than $10,000
2. 10,000 - 19,999
3. 20,000 - 29,999
4. 30,000 - 39,999
5. 40,000 - 49,999
6. 50,000 or over

7.6 Please write your postal code in the space provided. _____

SECTION VIII Comments

8.1 If you have any further comments or suggestions for the Task Force about violence in Calgary, please provide them below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

APPENDIX E

RESULTS OF SURVEY FOR THE MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

For this survey acts of violence mean:

a) being pushed, grabbed, slapped, punched, kicked, beaten up, attacked with a weapon
b) being threatened with any of the behaviors in a)
c) being coerced, threatened or forced to engage in unwanted sexual activity.

SECTION I In this section we are interested in your perception of Calgary as a community.

1.1 People will come to my aid if I am violently attacked in Calgary.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	133	27.77	126	26.30	220	45.93	479
FEMALE	200	23.47	237	27.82	415	48.71	852
TOTAL	333	25.02	363	27.27	635	47.71	1,331

1.2 The way that the Calgary media reports local violent incidents, increases fear of violence.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	104	21.85	94	19.75	278	58.40	476
FEMALE	284	33.61	143	16.92	418	49.47	845
TOTAL	388	29.37	237	17.94	696	52.69	1,321

1.3 City officials take my concerns about violence seriously.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	105	22.29	173	36.73	193	40.98	471
FEMALE	166	19.76	351	41.79	323	38.45	840
TOTAL	271	20.67	524	39.97	516	39.36	1,311

1.4 Social service agencies that work in the area of community and family violence are able to meet the requests for their services.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	227	48.30	174	37.02	69	14.68	470
FEMALE	553	65.68	193	22.92	96	11.40	842
TOTAL	780	59.45	367	27.97	165	12.58	1,312

1.5 Adequate information on community and family violence is available to Calgarians.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	168	35.37	152	32.00	155	32.63	475
FEMALE	293	35.01	251	29.99	293	35.01	837
TOTAL	461	35.14	403	30.72	448	34.15	1,312

1.6 Calgarians need to know self-defense strategies.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	112	23.73	89	18.86	271	57.42	472
FEMALE	107	12.68	135	16.00	602	71.33	844
TOTAL	219	16.64	224	17.02	873	66.34	1,316

1.7 Non-violent forms of interaction should be taught in Calgary schools.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	39	8.25	61	12.90	373	78.86	473
FEMALE	47	5.56	63	7.46	735	86.98	845
TOTAL	86	6.53	124	9.41	1,108	84.07	1,318

1.8 There is adequate lighting in public places in my neighbourhood.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	104	21.76	47	9.83	327	68.41	478
FEMALE	260	30.70	92	10.86	495	58.44	847
TOTAL	364	27.47	139	10.49	822	62.04	1,325

1.9 I would be willing to invest time in helping those people in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	131	27.70	191	40.38	151	31.92	473
FEMALE	212	25.45	316	37.94	305	36.61	833
TOTAL	343	26.26	507	38.82	456	34.92	1,306

1.10 I would be willing to have my taxes increased to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	221	46.72	92	19.45	160	33.83	473
FEMALE	329	39.40	226	27.07	280	33.53	835
TOTAL	550	42.05	318	24.31	440	33.64	1,308

1.11 I would be willing to donate from my after-taxes income to help those in the city who are dealing with violence in their lives.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	195	41.23	127	26.85	151	31.92	473
FEMALE	285	34.09	225	26.91	326	39.00	836
TOTAL	480	36.67	352	26.89	477	36.44	1,309

1.12 I impose restrictions on my life due to fear of violence.

	DISAGREE		UNDECIDED		AGREE		TOTAL
MALE	296	61.92	36	7.53	146	30.54	478
FEMALE	312	36.88	88	10.40	446	52.72	846
TOTAL	608	45.92	124	9.37	592	44.71	1,324

SECTION II In this section of the questionnaire we would like to ask your opinions on the scope of violence in Calgary.

2.1 Compared to other areas in Calgary, do you think your neighbourhood has a higher amount of violence, about the same or a lower amount of violence? (Circle one number below.)

1. Higher
2. About the same
3. Lower
4. Don't know

	HIGHER		SAME		LOWER		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	42	8.82	106	22.27	284	59.66	44	9.24	476
FEMALE	90	10.59	181	21.29	498	58.59	81	9.53	850
TOTAL	132	9.95	287	21.64	782	58.97	125	9.43	1,326

2.2 In the past twelve months, do you think that violence in your neighbourhood has: (Circle one number below.)

1. Increased
2. Decreased
3. Remained about the same
4. Don't know

	INCREASE		SAME		DECREASED		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	64	13.45	16	3.36	261	54.83	135	28.36	476
FEMALE	150	17.58	18	2.11	413	48.42	272	31.89	853
TOTAL	214	16.10	34	2.56	674	50.71	407	30.62	1,329

2.3 How many people do you know personally in Calgary who have experienced a violent incident in the past twelve months? (Circle one number below.)

1. Zero
2. One
3. Two
4. Three
5. Four
6. More than four

	ZERO		ONE		TWO		THREE		FOUR		>FOUR		TOTAL
MALE	270	56.13	87	18.09	64	13.31	25	5.20	5	1.04	30	6.24	481
FEMALE	469	55.18	176	20.71	94	11.06	39	4.59	18	2.12	54	6.35	850
TOTAL	739	55.52	263	19.76	158	11.87	64	4.81	23	1.73	84	6.31	1,331

2.4 In the past 12 months have you personally experienced a violent incident? (Circle one number below.).

1. Yes
2. No

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	70	14.52	412	85.48	482
FEMALE	93	10.92	758	88.97	851
TOTAL	163	12.23	1,170	87.77	1,333

2.5 If yes, did the incident occur: (Circle one number below)

1. in a public place
2. in your home
3. other, please specify _____

	PUBLIC PLACE		IN HOME		OTHER		(TOTAL)
MALE	44	77.19	13	22.80	12	15.90	69
FEMALE	38	45.24	46	54.76	13	13.40	97
TOTAL	82	49.40	59	35.54	25	15.06	166

SECTION III In this question we would like to learn about how safe you feel alone in public places in Calgary after dark. . . (Circle one number per item below.).

3.1

a) walking in your neighbourhood

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	418	87.08	58	12.08	4	0.83	480
FEMALE	530	62.35	306	36.00	14	1.65	850
TOTAL	948	71.28	364	27.37	18	1.35	1,330

b) riding a bus

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	365	76.36	49	10.25	64	13.39	478
FEMALE	546	64.24	193	22.71	111	13.06	850
TOTAL	911	68.60	242	18.22	175	13.18	1,328

c) waiting in a bus shelter

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	269	56.16	139	29.02	71	14.82	479
FEMALE	198	23.29	537	63.18	115	13.53	850
TOTAL	467	35.14	676	50.87	186	14.00	1,329

d) riding the LRT

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	312	65.41	104	21.80	61	12.79	477
FEMALE	347	40.78	385	45.24	119	13.98	851
TOTAL	659	49.62	489	36.82	180	13.55	1,328

e) waiting on the LRT platform

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	251	52.84	165	34.74	59	12.42	475
FEMALE	199	23.52	526	62.17	121	14.30	846
TOTAL	450	34.07	691	52.31	180	13.63	1,321

f) walking to your car in a parkade

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	246	51.57	209	43.82	22	4.61	477
FEMALE	100	11.74	697	81.81	55	6.46	852
TOTAL	346	26.03	906	68.17	77	5.79	1,329

g) walking to your car in an outdoor parking lot

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	317	66.46	147	30.82	13	2.73	477
FEMALE	231	27.30	573	67.73	42	4.96	846
TOTAL	548	41.42	720	54.42	55	4.16	1,323

h) driving your car

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	450	94.34	22	4.61	5	1.05	477
FEMALE	735	86.78	72	8.50	40	4.72	847
TOTAL	1,185	89.50	94	7.10	45	3.40	1,324

i) jogging

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	260	55.79	78	16.74	128	27.47	466
FEMALE	194	23.10	357	42.50	289	34.40	840
TOTAL	454	34.76	435	33.31	417	31.93	1,306

j) walking through underpasses

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	201	42.23	198	41.60	77	16.18	476
FEMALE	85	10.02	602	70.99	161	18.99	848
TOTAL	286	21.60	800	60.42	238	17.98	1,324

k) walking on campuses

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	243	52.03	67	14.35	157	33.62	467
FEMALE	178	21.34	337	40.41	319	38.25	834
TOTAL	421	32.36	404	31.05	476	36.59	1,301

l) using automatic banking machines

	SAFE		UNSAFE		N/A-Not Sure		TOTAL
MALE	282	59.24	144	30.25	50	10.50	476
FEMALE	304	35.98	412	48.76	129	15.27	845
TOTAL	586	44.36	556	42.09	179	13.55	1,321

SECTION IV In this section we are interested in your opinions about the criminal justice response to violence in Calgary.

4.1 In dealing with violence against people, do you think your local police force does a good job, an average or a poor job in the following areas: (Circle one number per item below.).

a) Of promptly responding to calls

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	162	33.82	143	29.85	55	11.48	119	24.84	479
FEMALE	252	29.44	288	33.64	56	6.54	260	30.37	856
TOTAL	414	31.01	431	32.28	111	8.31	379	28.39	1,335

b) Of laying assault charges when there is reasonable & probable grounds to do so

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	113	23.64	147	30.75	69	14.44	149	31.17	478
FEMALE	177	20.73	252	29.51	77	9.02	348	40.75	854
TOTAL	290	21.77	399	29.95	146	10.96	497	37.31	1,332

c) Of being approachable and easy to talk to

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	203	42.38	143	29.85	80	16.70	53	11.06	479
FEMALE	386	45.20	244	28.57	83	9.72	141	16.51	854
TOTAL	589	44.19	387	29.03	163	12.23	194	14.55	1,333

d) Of supplying information to the public on services to reduce violence

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	126	26.30	178	37.16	76	15.87	99	20.67	479
FEMALE	248	29.04	324	37.94	113	13.23	169	19.79	854
TOTAL	374	28.06	502	37.66	189	14.18	268	20.11	1,333

4.2 In dealing with violent crimes, do you think the criminal court system is doing a good job, an average job or a poor job in the following areas: (Circle one number per item below.)

a) Of providing justice quickly

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	11	2.30	97	20.25	320	66.81	51	10.65	479
FEMALE	7	0.82	159	18.73	559	65.84	124	14.61	849
TOTAL	18	1.36	256	19.28	879	66.19	175	13.18	1,328

b) Of helping the victim

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	17	3.54	77	16.04	298	62.08	88	18.33	480
FEMALE	17	2.00	201	23.70	458	54.01	172	20.28	848
TOTAL	34	2.56	278	20.93	756	56.94	260	19.58	1,328

c) Of determining whether the accused is guilty or not

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	47	9.83	215	44.99	141	29.50	75	15.69	478
FEMALE	36	4.27	368	43.60	231	27.37	209	24.76	844
TOTAL	83	6.28	583	44.10	372	28.14	284	21.48	1,322

d) Of protecting the rights of the accused

	GOOD		AVERAGE		POOR		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	174	36.33	144	30.06	82	17.12	79	16.49	479
FEMALE	227	26.93	255	30.25	132	15.66	229	27.16	843
TOTAL	401	30.33	399	30.18	214	16.19	308	23.30	1,322

4.3 In general, would you say that sentences handed down by the Court to those who have committed violent acts are: (Circle one number below.)

1. Too severe
2. About right
3. Not severe enough
4. Don't know

	TOO SEVERE		ABOUT RIGHT		NOT SEVERE		DON'T KNOW		TOTAL
MALE	1	0.21	44	9.19	387	80.79	47	9.81	479
FEMALE	2	0.24	61	7.25	688	81.81	90	10.70	841
TOTAL	3	0.23	105	7.95	1,075	81.43	137	10.38	1,320

SECTION V In this section we would like to learn your opinion about the seriousness of various types of violence in Calgary.

5.1 What level of concern do you feel should be associated with the following types of violence? (Circle one number per item below.)

a) Violence toward children

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	3	0.63	26	5.44	443	92.68	6	1.26	478
FEMALE	7	0.82	13	1.52	830	97.19	4	0.47	854
TOTAL	10	0.75	39	2.93	1,273	95.57	10	0.75	1,332

b) Violence in schools

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	6	1.25	83	17.33	382	79.75	8	1.67	479
FEMALE	5	0.59	87	10.19	750	87.82	12	1.41	854
TOTAL	11	0.83	170	12.75	1,132	84.92	20	1.50	1,333

c) Gang violence on the streets

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	6	1.26	57	12.00	400	84.21	12	2.53	475
FEMALE	8	0.94	63	7.38	773	90.52	10	1.17	854
TOTAL	14	1.05	120	9.03	1,173	88.26	22	1.66	1,329

d) Violence toward a spouse

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	9	1.90	102	21.56	339	71.67	23	4.86	473
FEMALE	9	1.06	90	10.59	736	86.59	15	1.76	850
TOTAL	18	1.36	192	14.51	1,075	81.25	38		1,323

e) Public violence toward women

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	15	3.16	105	22.11	336	70.74	19	4.00	475
FEMALE	11	1.29	114	13.40	702	82.49	24	2.82	851
TOTAL	26	1.96	219	16.52	1,038	78.28	643	3.24	1,326

f) Violence toward the elderly

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	12	2.51	76	15.90	377	78.87	13	2.72	478
FEMALE	7	0.82	83	9.76	742	87.29	18	2.12	850
TOTAL	19	1.43	159	11.97	1,119	84.26	31	2.33	1,328

g) Inter-racial violence

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	25	5.24	146	30.61	284	59.54	22	4.61	477
FEMALE	14	1.64	181	21.24	625	73.36	32	3.76	852
TOTAL	39	2.93	327	24.60	909	68.40	54	4.06	1,329

h) Other

	NO CONCERN		MINOR		MAJOR		DON'T KNOW		(TOTAL)
MALE	2	1.32	26	17.22	55	36.42	68	45.03	151
FEMALE	6	2.59	27	11.64	125	53.88	74	31.90	232
TOTAL	8	2.08	53	13.83	180	47.00	142	37.08	383

SECTION VI In this section we are trying to learn if you, the Calgary resident, know about the resources that exist in Calgary to assist those who are experiencing violence in their lives.

6.1 If a friend, neighbour, or co-worker needed one of the following services to deal with violence in their lives, would you presently be able to supply them with the appropriate telephone number? (Circle one number per item below.)

a) A shelter for battered women

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	247	51.78	230	48.22	477
FEMALE	273	32.19	575	67.81	848
TOTAL	520	39.25	805	60.75	1,325

b) A crisis nursery

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	369	77.85	105	22.15	474
FEMALE	532	63.26	309	36.74	841
TOTAL	901	68.52	414	36.74	1,315

c) A counselling service for sexual assault survivors

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	308	64.98	166	35.02	474
FEMALE	447	52.90	398	47.10	845
TOTAL	755	57.24	564	42.76	1,319

d) A crisis line for adults

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	301	63.64	172	36.36	473
FEMALE	439	51.95	406	48.05	845
TOTAL	740	56.15	578	43.85	1,318

e) A crisis line for children

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	303	64.06	170	35.94	473
MALE	439	52.01	405	47.99	844
TOTAL	742	56.34	575	43.66	1,317

f) A program to assist victims of crime

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	361	76.16	113	23.84	474
FEMALE	627	74.73	211	25.15	838
TOTAL	988	75.25	324	24.68	1,312

g) A program for men who batter their wives

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	381	80.55	92	19.45	473
FEMALE	652	77.25	191	22.63	843
TOTAL	1,033	78.44	283	21.49	1,316

h) A program for parents of violent adolescents

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	393	83.09	80	16.91	473
FEMALE	693	82.01	151	17.87	844
TOTAL	1,086	82.40	231	17.53	1,317

i) A program for abused seniors

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	404	85.05	71	14.95	475
FEMALE	711	84.24	133	15.76	844
TOTAL	1,115	84.53	204	15.47	1,319

j) Free legal counselling

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	249	52.42	226	47.58	475
FEMALE	355	42.06	489	57.94	844
TOTAL	604	45.79	715	54.21	1,319

k) A child welfare worker

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	286	60.34	188	39.66	474
FEMALE	399	47.11	448	52.89	847
TOTAL	685	51.85	636	48.15	1,321

l) A program for street youth

	YES		NO		(TOTAL)
MALE	358	75.85	114	24.15	472
FEMALE	597	70.82	246	29.18	843
TOTAL	955	72.62	360	27.38	1,315

SECTION VII In this section of the questionnaire, we would like to ask a few questions about you for statistical purposes. We realize that this information may be personal, but please keep in mind that all the information you provide will be kept confidential and anonymous. Please answer the following questions.

7.1 Please indicate whether you are: (Circle one number below.)
1. Male 2. Female

	NUMBER	PERCENT
MALE	484	36.09
FEMALE	857	63.91
TOTAL	1341	100.00

7.2 What year were you born? (Place year on line below).

	18-19	20-24	25-44	45-65	Over 65	(TOTAL)
MALE	4	20	273	125	58	480
FEMALE	13	68	488	222	61	852
TOTAL	17	88	761	347	119	1332

7.3 What is your present marital status? (Circle one number below.)

1. Married
2. Common-law
3. Widowed
4. Separated
5. Divorced
6. Single (never married)

	MARRIED		COMMON-LAW		WIDOW		SEPARATED		DIVORCED		SINGLE		TOTAL
MALE	297	61.49	24	4.97	6	1.24	12	2.48	38	7.87	106	21.95	483
FEMALE	504	58.88	65	7.59	45	5.26	19	2.22	94	10.98	129	15.07	856
TOTAL	801		89		51		31		132		235		1,339

7.4 What is the highest level of schooling that you have completed? (Circle one number below.)

1. Elementary school (grades 1 - 6)
2. Some Junior High School
3. Completed Junior High School (grade 9)
4. Some High Sc2hool
5. Graduated High School (grade 12)
6. Vocational/Technical/College
7. Some University
8. Graduated University

	MALE		FEMALE		(TOTAL)	
ELEMENTARY	2	0.41	6	0.70	8	0.60
SOME JUNIOR HIGH	6	1.24	5	0.58	11	0.82
COMP. JUNIOR HIGH	18	3.72	12	1.40	30	2.24
SOME HIGH SCH.	36	7.44	70	8.17	106	7.90
GRAD. HIGH SCH.	76	15.70	198	23.10	274	20.43
VOC/TECH COLL.	119	24.59	243	28.35	362	26.99
SOME UNIVERSITY	65	13.43	125	14.59	190	14.17
GRAD UNIVERSITY	161	33.26	194	22.64	355	26.47
UNKNOWN	1	0.21	4	0.47	5	0.37
TOTAL	484		857		1341	

7.5 Presently, which group does your family income fall into? (Circle one number below.)

1. Less than $10,000
2. 10,000 - 19,999
3. 20,000 - 29,999
4. 30,000 - 39,999
5. 40,000 - 49,999
6. 50,000 or over

	MALE		FEMALE		(TOTAL)
<10,000,000	15	3.10	53	6.18	68
$10,000 - $19,999	33	6.82	97	11.32	130
$20,000 - $29,999	79	16.32	126	14.70	205
$30,000 - $39,999	96	19.83	141	16.45	237
$40,000 - $49,999	66	13.64	129	15.05	195
$50,000+	187	38.64	278	32.44	465
UNKNOWN	8	1.65	33	3.85	41
TOTAL	484		857		1,341

7.6 Please write your postal code in the space provided. _____

Ward	Respondents
1	144
2	77
3	103
4	160
5	84
6	62
7	100
8	120
9	74
10	60
11	78
12	163
13	79
14	39
Total	1,343